The Middlebury Campus

VOL. 101 NO. 21 | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2003 | SINCE 1905

SARS Cuts Short Middlebury Semester Abroad in China

By Andrea Gissing
News Editor

Eight Middlebury students returned home Monday, April 21, after their study abroad semester in Harbin, China, was cut short due to the possible health risks associated with the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). China Education Tours (CET), the organization in charge of the courses in Harbin, announced April 17 that it would be suspending both of its programs in Beijing and Harbin for the remainder of the spring semester, sending students home after completing 10 weeks of the 15 the program was scheduled to run.

Dean of Language Schools and Schools Abroad and Professor of Russian Michael Katz said that CET's decision to terminate the program early was a good one. "We were hoping against hope that it wouldn't happen, but CET's office has been monitoring the situation and has made its decision based on the information available."

Mark Lenhart, director of the CET programs in China and Vietnam, explained the rationale behind the decision to discontinue the program on CET's Web site. "[CET] has been monitoring the development of SARS in China every day. Based on [new] information, which has alerted us to new cases at major universities in Beijing, we feel that the number of cases throughout China will grow significantly in the next week. The U.S. Department of State has issued travel warnings that raise serious questions about students' medical treatment in China. In addition, we feel that our normal efforts to immerse students in local life are being compromised by precautions we must make to limit exposure to the disease."

BEIJING BATTLES SARS: ALUMNUS TIM MCCAHILL REPORTS FROM THE CHINESE CAPITAL
SEE PAGE 6

Lila Buckley '04, who until Monday was studying in Harbin, said that the first time any of the students really considered SARS to be a threat was when CET imposed travel restrictions for the students' Spring Break, though at that point cancellation of the program was only considered a "vague possibility."

"We were informed that we could still receive good medical care and that our insur-

(see SARS, page 6)

Reconciling Room Draw and the Commons System

By Tom Drescher
Staff Writer

Housing is always a major concern for the student body this time of year, with room draw and Student Government Association (SGA) elections both falling in April.

More than 100 rising sophomores failed to draw rooms earlier this month, and to further exacerbate the situation, it is possible that there will be a significant decline in the number of students going abroad next fall. Additionally, students, faculty and staff are still seeking a way for the current room draw process and the commons system to coexist.

NEWS ANALYSIS

According to the Middlebury College Board of Trustees, the commons system is bolstered by three founding principles: decentralized dining, proximate housing for a Faculty Head and continuing membership for students. In its "Enhanced Residential Plan," submitted on May 8, 1998, the Residential Life Committee recommended "that all students be assigned to a commons after admission and that they retain their affiliation for all four years. [. . .] Students should be required to live in their commons cluster for the first two years."

The plan also suggested that juniors and seniors transfer from one commons to another only "in special cases."

Currently, the housing situation has prevented these goals from being realized. Making it mandatory for students to remain in their commons for the first two years is not even an option at this point. In fact, many rising sophomores are forced to switch commons.

(see Housing, page 7)

Classbound

Schuyler Van Horn

A solitary student, *putting aside thoughts of final exams for a moment, considers the rising mist as he slowly makes his way to class along the ridge overlooking Battell Beach.*

Group Will Propose Carbon Reduction

By Josh Carson
Staff Writer

Last October, Community Council charged the Carbon Reduction Initiative (CRI) working group with the task of establishing a plan to reduce the College's carbon dioxide emissions. The working group is now ready to present their findings to the Community and Environmental Councils this week.

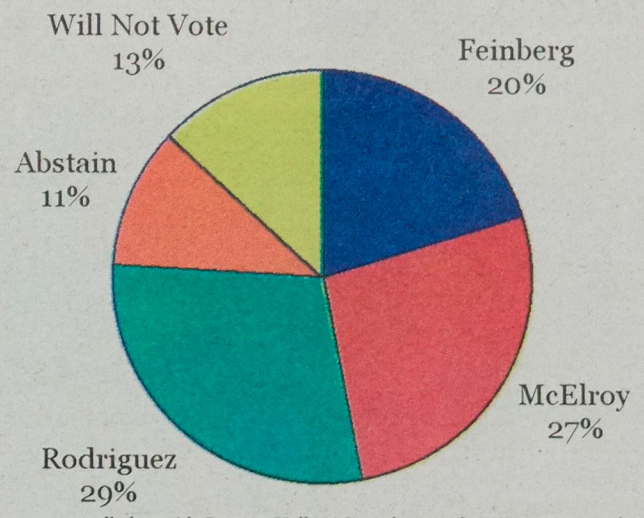
Led by Director of Environmental Affairs Nan Jenks-Jay and Vice President for Administration and Treasurer Bob Huth, the CRI working group is composed of student representatives from each commons, faculty advisors and staff and administrators involved in all aspects of running the College. The group will propose strategies for the College to lower carbon emissions to 10 percent below the 1990 levels by the year 2020.

The creation of the CRI working group has been an evolutionary process that began three years ago in the Environmental Council (EC).

(see College, page 3)

Poll Predicts Tight Presidential Race

Who will you vote Student Government Association President in Thursday's elections?



177 students were polled outside Proctor Hall on Saturday, April 19. For more results, see page 5.

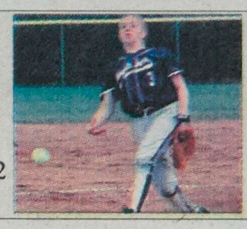
Inside...

Off-Campus Parties Harden Middlebury Student, Resident and Police Relations page 8

FEATURES
Riddim Rolls Out the Red Carpet page 18

SPORTS
McCarthy Leads Softball to Upset Wins page 32

INDEX
News....1
Local News....8
Opinions....12
Features....16
Arts....21
Sports....32



Please visit our Web site: www.middleburycampus.com
The Middlebury Campus is printed on recycled paper.

COLLEGE shorts

By Andrea Gissing
News Editor

Bowdoin Awarded Grant for Ecological Study

The Henry Luce Foundation's Environment and Public Policy Program has awarded Bowdoin College $365,000 to set up a long-term ecological study of Maine's Merrymeeting Bay.

The bay is a large freshwater tidal ecosystem located close to Bowdoin's campus. The Environmental Studies faculty at Bowdoin pay particular attention to Merrymeeting Bay because "it is a living laboratory ideal for participatory learning and teaching."

The Luce funds will go towards establishing a fundamental scientific study of the hydrology, biogeochemistry and aquatic ecology of Merrymeeting Bay and the lower Kennebec River. Right now, the plan is to collect water and plankton samples weekly from key locations during the ice-free season, and quantify seasonal variation in water properties and chemistry, and plankton abundance and composition. The data will provide baseline information about the health of the ecosystem. Additionally, studies will be done to understand the dynamics of the plant communities in the area, as well as research to reconstruct the environmental history of the bay.

Bowdoin students working in independent study and honors projects, as well as summer research fellowships, will do much of the research.

Source: *The Bowdoin Sun*

UC Professors to Vote on Relationships

This spring, faculty at the University of California campuses are scheduled to vote on rules regarding faculty-student relationships, completing a process that started a while before the dean of UC's top law school departed amidst a sex scandal last fall.

Though UC does not have a formal no-dating decree, there has always been an unwritten rule against getting involved with students. Faculty recommended drafting a policy in 1983, but it was not made official. Recently, work has been done on a dating policy since late 2001.

The proposed policy would make having a romantic relationship with a student a breach of the code of conduct for faculty members.

Some UC campuses already have guidelines on dating students. The proposed system wide policy is more strongly worded.

The policy would make UC the latest school to ban faculty-student relationships, along with such schools as the University of Iowa, University of Michigan, the College of William and Mary and Yale University.

Source: CNN.com

13-year-old to Receive College Degree

Gregory Robert Smith, a 13-year-old, will receive his bachelor's degree in mathematics on May 31 from Randolph-Macon College, a private Methodist school located outside of Richmond, Va. Smith was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and will graduate cum laude.

Smith started college in September 1999, after completing 10 grades of school in three years. He graduated with honors from high school when he was nine yeas old and has been twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

At this time, he has not announced where he will attend graduate school, though he plans to earn PhDs in math, aerospace engineering, political science and biomedical engineering.

While Smith could have entered practically any college in the country, his parents, Janet and Bob Smith liked the size of Randolph-Macon and felt that it would be the best environment for their young son.

Along with his schoolwork, Smith founded International Youth Advocates, an organization that champions nonviolence and human rights.

Source: CNN.com

Tribal Colleges Popular Among Students

The 58 tribal colleges in the United States are drawing more students than ever before.

Established in the late 1960s to provide poverty-ridden residents of Native American reservations with skills for the U.S. job market, today the colleges are educating more than 30,000 full and part time students each semester. The majority of the campuses are located in the Great Plains states and the Southwest.

Along with nearly doubling their enrollment in the past decade, these specialized community colleges have also sparked interest among students in courses teaching about Native American culture, language and art. Seven of the institutions have expanded into four-year degree granting colleges recently and several now offer master's degrees.

Twenty percent of the students at colleges are non-Native American, and although many college administrators say that their primary focus is helping Native Americans recover their cultural past, others say they are determined to build rigorous academic programs for students of all ethnic backgrounds.

Source: *The Washington Post*

Quotes of the Week:

"I feel pretty overwhelmed by the situation, considering we had to pack up and evacuate the school in 72 hours."

— Rui Bing Zheng '04, on leaving Harbin, China because of the risks associated with SARS

"If it can be implemented, it will make Middlebury a true leader among educational institutions."

— Visiting scholar in Environmental Studies William McKibben, on the Carbon Reduction Initiatives proposal.

"They look sexy. When the titanium model came out, people went nuts."

— Mack Roark, Information Technology Services computing support specialist, on the attraction of Macs.

"I think it is true that the new senior housing has had a big impact on room draw, and in the short term, it does undermine the commons idea."

— David Edleson, dean of Cook Commons, on the present state of room draw and the commons.

MiddBRIEFS

Former Director of Financial Aid Brakeley Dies

By Nicolas Emery
News Editor

Charles D. Brakeley, a well-known and respected retiree of Middlebury College, passed away last Thursday at the age of 82.

"Pete" to those who knew him, Brakeley began his 17-year career at the College in 1964 as assistant to the director of development. In 1967 Brakeley was named the director of financial aid, a position he held until he retired in 1981.

Four out of Brakeley's five sons attended Middlebury College. As a parent himself, Brakeley brought a realistic and caring touch to his interactions as financial aid director with parents of College students.

The Brakeley household was frequented by students from the College seeking to exchange the stresses of campus life for a homey, welcoming environment.

Brakeley's ongoing support of the Middlebury College community was evident in his continuing presence at athletic events, especially in recent years with the matriculation of his granddaughter in the Class of 2004.

Additionally, Brakeley gave his time and energy as a member of the Addison County Counseling Service, the Middlebury School Board, the Sheldon Museum and Porter Medical Center.

Where Have All the Glasses Gone?

Schuyler Van Horn

Empty Proctor Cup Crates, *a key indication of springtime in the dining halls, await thirsty students.*

More Prospectives Commit Earlier

By Ian Fleishman
Staff Writer

The Admissions Office has heard from over 350 students accepted to the Class of 2007 who have chosen to attend Middlebury College over other institutions.

This figure is slightly larger than the number of deposits received from admitted applicants by this date a year ago.

The increase in accepted students who have decided to matriculate is not particularly surprising, according to Director of Admissions John Hanson.

He emphasizes that 350 is "not an uncommon number" of positive responses to have received at this point in time.

Hanson explains that the number "may partially reflect a somewhat larger number of early decision admissions."

He declined to draw any further generalizations from the numbers as they stand now, explaining that at this moment "there are too many variables at play" to understand what the statistics mean.

Religious and postal holidays coupled with the impending dates of open houses for admitted students here at Middlebury and at other institutions, make it difficult to predict from the current number how many admitted students will ultimately choose to attend Middlebury.

The Admissions Office will not "pay much attention" to these numbers until the second week of May, at which point it will be easier to gauge the response.

The office is hoping that the numbers at that point in time will be smaller than they were in the year prior, as the College is aiming to have a somewhat smaller incoming class for the upcoming academic year.

McCardell Presides at Last Town Meeting of the Year

By Samuel Wilson
Staff Writer

On Monday evening, President John McCardell, various members of the faculty and staff and students, including members of the Student Government Association (SGA) met in the Ross Fireplace Lounge for the final Town Meeting of the year.

The Town Meetings have served as an open forum for discourse between the administration and the student body. Topics discussed Monday included the prospective weekends, the possible elimination of Advanced Placement (AP) credits, the smoking policy in dormitories, expanding the enhanced access system to class buildings and the racial diversity of the faculty.

McCardell first thanked the student body for helping the prospective weekends, held the past two weeks, go smoothly. He pointed out that the incoming first-years will be from the biggest applicant class in College history and, consequently, will be the most selective class ever.

"The students and family felt well and warmly received. I am confident that the weekends showed the College at its very best," he said.

Fahim Ahmed '03 posed the first question to McCardell, asking if the administration held a stance on the possible elimination of AP credit. McCardell responded by saying that the administration has no position and would leave the issue to the faculty for a vote.

Robert Schine, dean of the Faculty and Curt C. & Else Silberman Professor in Jewish Studies, explained that the proposal before the faculty would limit AP courses to placement. Students would no longer receive course credit.

Several students asked about the smoking policy and why the administration was not doing more to curb smoking in dormitories, claiming it is a safety hazard.

"I am not sure that proscribing behavior on people when the law does not proscribe a behavior is a good thing," McCardell said, and pointed out that he was speaking "very personally."

Ben LaBolt '03, student co-chair of the Community Council, applauded the administration for working with the student body on the issue of smoking on campus. He said that such a change would need to originate within the student body with strong support.

"At no point did more than one-third of the students support a smoking ban on campus," LaBolt said.

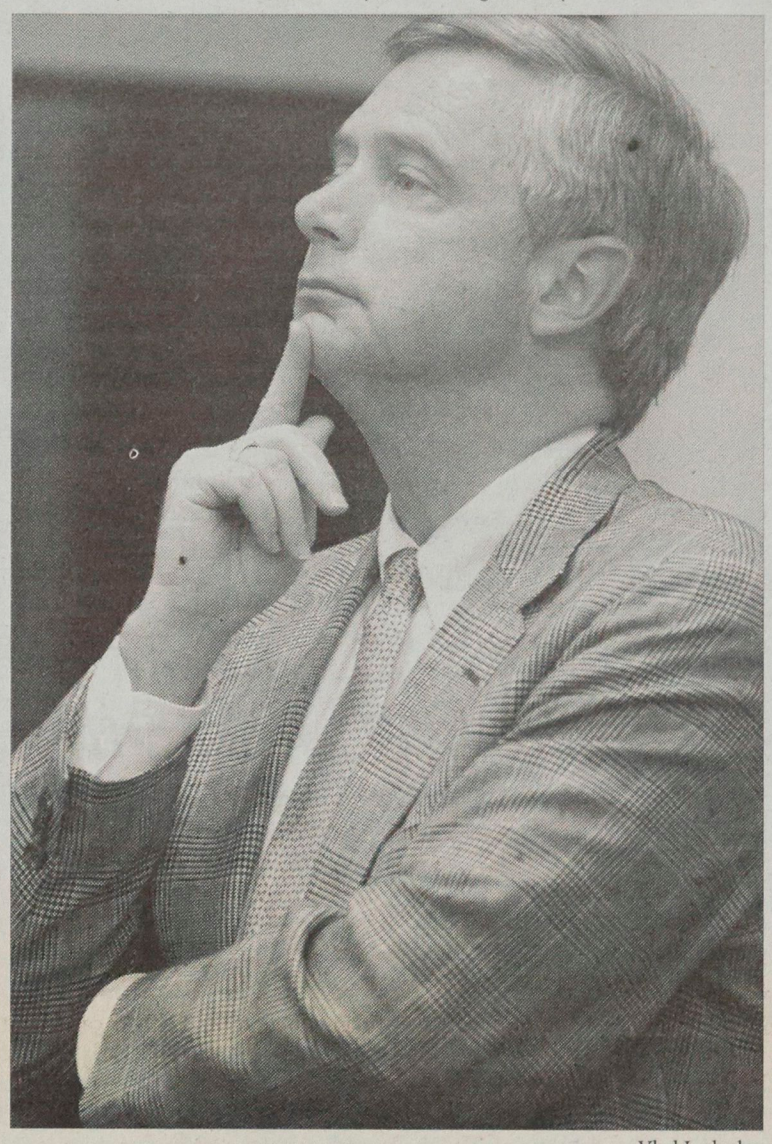
"We have come to a defensible place, but the debate will continue," McCardell said.

Sam Rodriguez '04 asked if any chance existed to extend the enhanced access system to class buildings, such as Bicentennial Hall or Warner Science Building.

Assistant Treasurer and Director of Business Services Thomas Corbin said that the College plans to install access card readers in the athletic complex, the larger peripheral residences and the new library. However, to renovate the existing class buildings would be expensive. The possibility exists though that the College may someday adopt the access cards completely, eliminating the need for keys.

A question about the College's commitment to a more diverse faculty was brought to the floor and McCardell responded that it is a serious concern for the College. It has been easier for the College to attract a diverse student body because the undergraduate commitment is only for four years, while for faculty the commitment may be for life. The remoteness of the College compared to schools in major metropolitan areas makes it more difficult to attract faculty.

McCardell concluded the meeting by expressing his pleasure with the town meetings this year. He thanked the SGA and expressed his eagerness to continue the meetings next year.



Vlad Lodoaba
President John McCardell ponders a question at Monday's town meeting.

Junior Wins Environmental Studies Scholarship

Julia Randall
Leah Koenig '04 beams after winning a prestigious Udall Scholarship.

By Claire Bourne
Acting Managing Editor

Leah Koenig '04 transferred to Middlebury College from the University of Oregon last fall in large part due to the College's Environmental Studies (ES) program. Since then, she has wasted no time in making a name for herself on campus and in the surrounding community.

Most notably, Koenig was recently named a Morris K. Udall Scholar for demonstrating "outstanding potential" in the environmental studies field. Sponsored by the Morris K. Udall Foundation, the scholarship was established in 1992 to propagate its namesake's contribution to wilderness preservation. Udall represented Arizona in the U.S. Congress from 1961 to 1991, championing the rights of Native Americans as well as raising awareness of the country's natural resources.

Koenig, an environmental studies major focusing in religion and philosophy, submitted a 600-word essay addressing a speech Udall delivered in 1973 on the U.S. conservation movement.

She was required to discuss the central theme of the talk — the need for innovation when it comes to promoting green practices — and how that idea related to her experience and plans for the future.

"My own area of interest examines the ways in which religion can be used as a source of environmental inspiration," she wrote. "This approach includes examining religious texts and traditions through an environmental lens and incorporating environmental awareness, activism and education into the ethics and practices of a religious life." As one of 80 Udall Scholars, she will receive $5,000 towards her Middlebury tuition.

The interdisciplinary nature of Middlebury's ES program is tailor-made for Koenig's interests. "The department is so perfect for what I wanted," she said.

While expanding her knowledge of the environment, religion and philosophy through coursework, Koenig also looks beyond the classroom for ways to apply her understanding of how these three disciplines interact. "Leah shows great initiative," said her advisor, Assistant Professor of Philosophy Heidi Grasswick.

In addition to co-organizing an energy and development symposium for next fall, Koenig is currently soliciting submissions for Middlebury-based Spirit in Nature's new periodical, a project which is in the works.

"We're putting together a publication made up of writing and artwork from the Middlebury community that typify the values of being in nature," she explained.

She is also a strong advocate of educating Vermont citizens about the environment. On May 3, she and other members of Spirit in Nature, along with concerned members of the community, will congregate at the organization's

(see Koenig, page 6)

College Combats Carbon Emissions

(continued from page 1)

Since then, students and faculty have traveled around the country to other institutions to determine whether a carbon reduction initiative would be feasible at Middlebury. Attending conferences and bringing in outside speakers has led to a better understanding and greater concern for the current global problem.

The College formally responded to this challenge two years ago when the EC established a subcommittee to investigate the possibility of making Middlebury College carbon neutral. Doug Dagan '03 completed an emissions inventory of carbon dioxide emitted by the College over the last 10 years. This promoted further interest across campus and led the Community Council to commission the CRI working group.

The CRI has two goals as stated by the EC: to evaluate data from the College's recent carbon emissions and to create a menu of carbon reduction options in order to create a specific carbon reduction plan for Middlebury College.

The data comes from Dagan's emissions inventory and the extensive report written by the Carbon Neutral Winter Term class whose goal it was to "explore the available and emerging technologies and economic instruments that would allow the College to achieve a net emissions rate of carbon dioxide equal to zero," according to Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Lori DelNegro who taught the class with Assistant Professor of Economics Jonathan Isham. The class released a final report documenting its findings which were used extensively by the CRI working group.

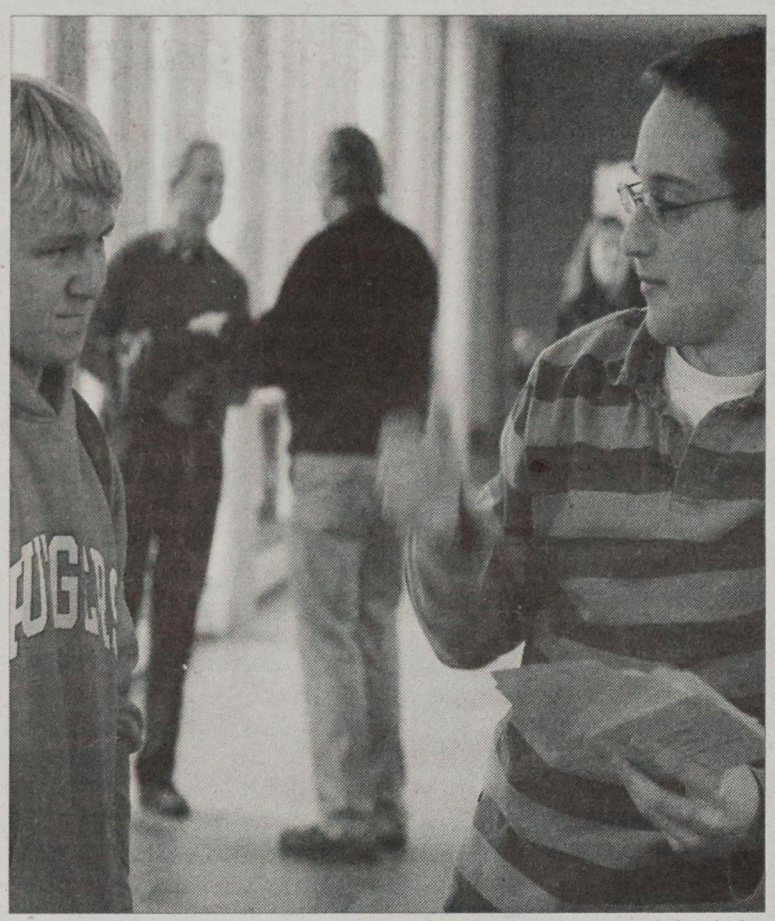
The CRI working group has now created a progress report, which it will present to the Community and Environmental Councils, recommending various strategies the College can adopt to reduce its emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses. The recommendations will range from education and outreach to infrastructure changes at Middlebury like purchasing a more efficient boiler and burning cleaner oil.

In the proposal to the Community Council, the group also recommends that it be charged with "identifying a specific carbon reduction goal for the College and developing a specific carbon reduction plan that outlines the steps necessary to achieve said goal".

Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have increased dramatically during the 20th century. Since climate change is closely related to increased carbon dioxide levels, many environmentalists are concerned.

McKibben notes that "humans are threatening to take the temperature of the planet to a spot where it hasn't been for hundreds of millions of years, and only rapid carbon reduction can head it off."

Catching Up With the SGA Presidential Candidates



Vlad Lodoaba

Feinberg '04 explains his platform to a student outside Ross Dining Hall last night.

Feinberg Focuses on Election

Dan Phillips
Staff Writer

Not even a leg injury "worse than Bo Jackson's" kept Andrew Feinberg '04 from an intense week of campaigning for the office of Student Government Association (SGA) President. Despite three torn ligaments, Feinberg is staying on campus until the conclusion of elections at the end of this week, at which point he will return home for emergency surgery and remain there for the duration of semester. "The pain gets worse every day," he added, reclined on his dorm room bed with crutches close at hand, "but I've had wonderful support from the people who want to help me out."

Feinberg, who has previously been involved with the Community Council, admitted he got off to a late start with campaigning due to his rugby injury. He showed no signs of letting up on his efforts, however, as he proceeded to attend an SGA meeting the following Sunday night. He had a few bed sheet-sized banners hung on Monday, he said, and had flyers up and out all last week, stating that he will continue with his campaign in the days leading up to the election on Thursday.

"It's been tough to go door to door," he said, as he did last Friday in Gifford and Battell, noting that it takes him nearly three times as long to get the job done on crutches.

"Name and face recognition are so important," Feinberg explained. "It's about sharing your ideas and letting them know you want to make a positive difference." He added, "Everybody had such wonderful questions."

Feinberg handed out flyers during brunch at Ross last Sunday and went door to door in Allen and Coffrin later that evening. During this process he noted that he could not be "fake." "The key is not my platform. They do not care as much about that as seeing you go door to door," he said. Feinberg was met with receptive faces in every room he visited as he asked first-years for a moment of their time. Most had read his platform and flyers and liked what he had to say. Feinberg vowed to push "realistic change for realistic problems through incremental change," without promising "grandiose ideas."

He discussed academic reform and student life on campus, the primary issues of his platform. "It's poor form for the administration to tell you how to run your education," he claimed. Feinberg informed inquisitive first-years of his great relationship with the administration and how he thinks he can do the best job because of his realistic approach. "It's a great feeling when you know you've got people who are going to support you."

Feinberg also held a hall meeting on the third floor of Milliken on Monday night with student co-chair of Community Council candidate Erin Sullivan '04.5 and handed out flyers at Ross during lunch on Tuesday.

McElroy Presses Forward Confidently

By Dan Phillips
Staff Writer

Megan McElroy '04 has kept busy this past week campaigning for President of the Student Government Association (SGA).

She posted flyers and began going around to campus dorm rooms as early as last week. McElroy also met with organizations such as the Middlebury Mountain Club and contacted all of the social houses in efforts to reiterate her platform goal of "bridging the gap between students and the SGA." She said, "Basically, everyone I've talked to didn't even know what the SGA does."

McElroy attended the Town Meeting on Monday night, where she noted that President McCardell supported three particular ideas of her platform concerning student life: an on-campus bar if enough student support is gained, a potential trial period for running buses to off-campus parties and an over-18 drinking area on campus. People have misinterpreted the new drinking age policy, McElroy said. "It's not going to happen next year, but we have to get the ball rolling." She added that McCardell and a few Vermont state legislators were in support of the proposal.

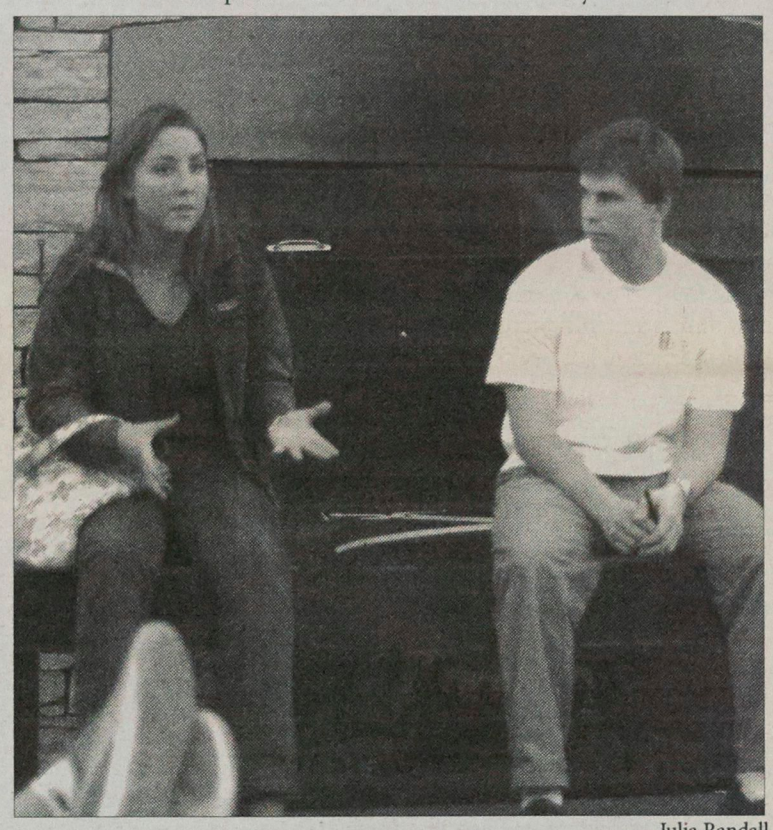
McElroy has been "really encouraged" by the reception she received from students as well as the administration about her ideas, she said.

Following the Town Meeting, McElroy proceeded to go door to door in Ross and continued meeting with students and posting flyers in dorms such as Gifford, Coffrin, Painter and Starr on Tuesday afternoon. She completed her campaigning schedule Tuesday night by pitching her platform and answering question at meetings with Middlebury College Activities Board, the International Students Organization and various social houses.

"I think I really have fresh ideas," stated McElroy, alluding to her desire to change the current SGA policy and the need for more discussion about the commons system.

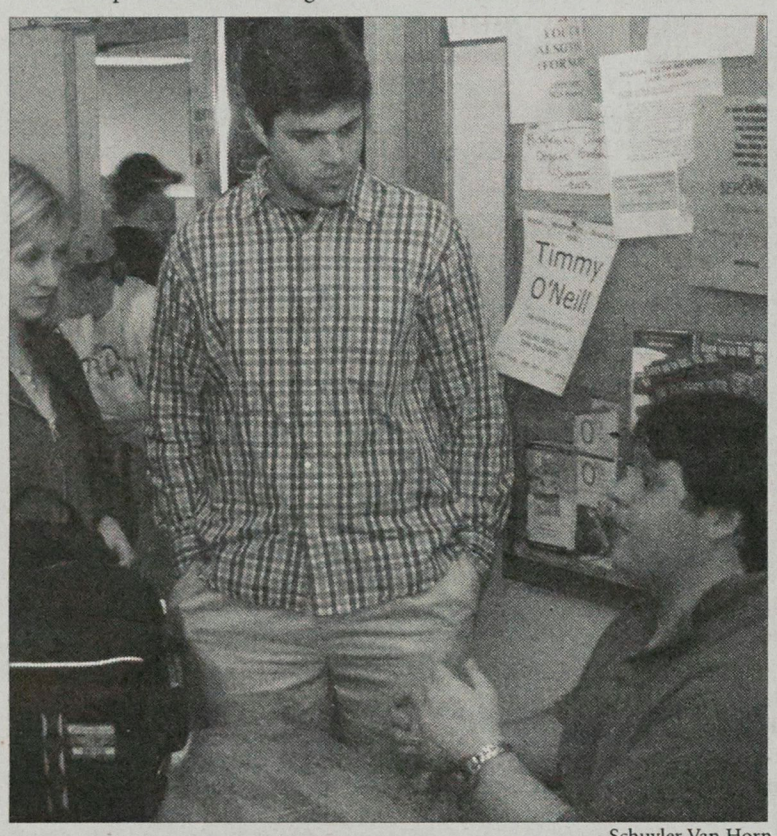
She claimed that her "experience is important," as it provides her with the advantage of being previously involved in the framework of student governance. McElroy feels her position as current chief of staff to the SGA President also represents the effort she has proudly put into the student government in the past three years: "you can't be the captain if you haven't played on the team," she asserted.

"A lot of students know what I have been doing," said McElroy, "but they are misinformed and wrongly think that my platform is unrealistic." She responds, calling her ideas "definitely feasible."



Julia Randall

McElroy '04 sits front and center with students to discuss items on her platform.



Schuyler Van Horn

Rodriguez '04 answers questions from a couple of curious voters last night outside the entrance to Proctor.

Reform Cand. Rodriguez Speaks Out

By Dan Phillips
Staff Writer

Sam Rodriguez '04 was hard at work this past week running "a very different campaign" for the president of the Student Government Association (SGA). He has engineered a campaign with humorous flyers and two forty-foot banners cascading down the front façade of Hepburn Hall. Rodriguez hung the banners in response to the presence of one his opponent's banners on the same dorm.

Rodriguez has campaigned on a more personal level by speaking to "an overwhelming number of students" during visits to first-year dorms. He visited Battell, Allen and Stewart and made it a point to have a consistent presence in McCullough every day.

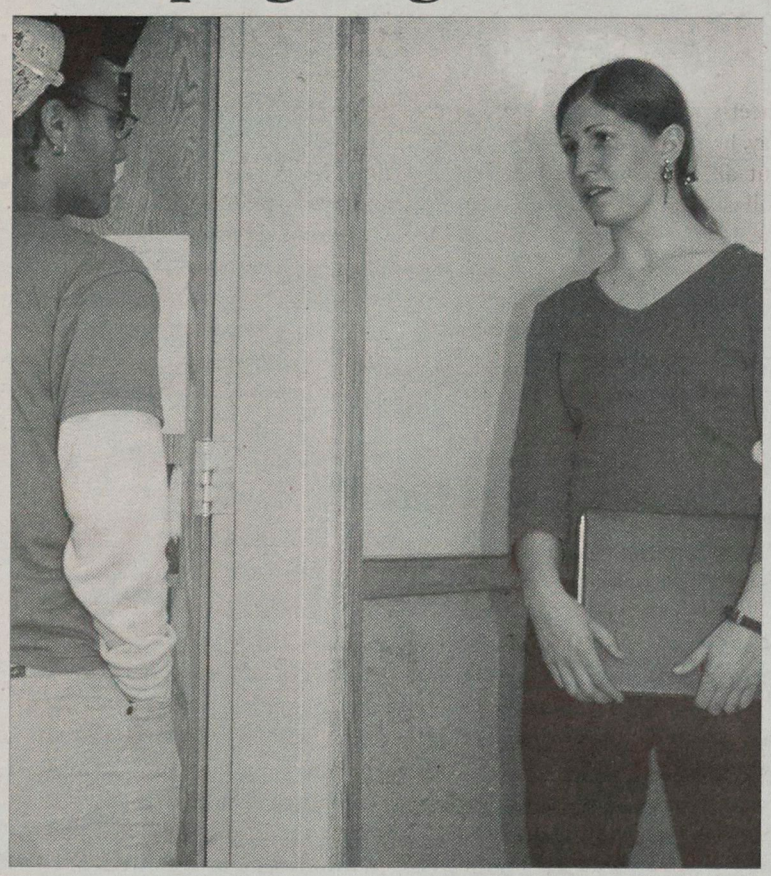
On Tuesday, Rodriguez began circulating new flyers that emphasized more comprehensively the "laundry list" of ideas he attempted to avoid in his first round of campaign posters. He planned on going door to door in Pearsons, Ross, Coffrin and Le Chateau to further address the student body he hopes to govern next year. After attending the International Student Organization (ISO) meeting Tuesday night, he hopes to have flyers up in Starr Library, Monroe and Gifford.

A lot of people felt that Rodriguez's decision to disregard alcohol policy in his platform made it a "fresh campaign," he said. "I feel it is best to separate myself from my opponents, and I feel that I have done that successfully." Rodriguez claimed his purpose was to identify changes that have not yet occurred and to avoid long-term issues in the SGA. Instead, Rodriguez would rather focus upon "short-term goals that can be addressed," such as the possible creation of a health food dining hall, the installation of network printers in every dorm and the reworking of the SGA to make it more available to students.

Concerned about the distance between the student body and the SGA, Rodriguez reserved a table outside the entrance to Proctor dining hall last night and made himself available to students in much the same way he feels the SGA should be accessible to the student body. Rodriguez fielded questions about his platform and handed out flyers for students to read while eating or to take away. As part of his platform, Rodriguez feels that members of the SGA or class senators should be available outside Ross and Proctor dining halls once a week or every day so students can learn about current issues and ask questions of the College's governing body.

The cornerstone of his campaign remains 'making changes that need to be made without raising the public's expectations.' Thus far, he has received a "very warm reception," he said.

Campaigning for Student Co-Chair of Community Council



Vlad Lodoaba

Blazing the campaign trail, Sullivan '04.5 meets new faces in Stewart Hall last night.

Sullivan Seeks Stand-Out Campaign

By Dan Phillips
Staff Writer

Erin Sullivan '04.5, candidate for student co-chair of the Community Council and speaker for the Student Government Association (SGA) Senate, finished plastering campus buildings and dormitories with a rainbow of flyers last Saturday. She directed her efforts this past week toward getting her platform known and attracting people's attention. Sullivan has hosted a number of meetings this week and will continue to host more in the days leading up to the election. She attended the Town Meeting with President McCardell on Monday and organized a hall meeting later that evening with the junior counselor (JC) on the third floor of Milliken Hall along with SGA Presidential candidate Andrew Feinberg '04. The two hopefuls fielded questions from curious first-years and focused on the issues they would address if elected.

At Monday night's Milliken meeting, Sullivan stressed social house and TIPS reform and elaborated upon environmental initiatives she supports, claiming, "The College has an environmental peak of excellence that must be upheld." She hopes to increase exposure of the Community Council, which she asserted was "probably the most influential body on campus." Lastly, Sullivan advocated the purchase of "fair trade coffee," an issue she recently incorporated into her campaign.

Sullivan fielded questions about her support of portable financial aid for students studying abroad on non-Middlebury programs, stating that Middlebury prides itself on its reputation as a school that promotes international education. She proposed the alternative of introducing scholarships to help fund students who opt for unaffiliated programs abroad. The continued acceptance of AP credit was another topic which concerned first-year students present at the meeting.

Following the meeting, Sullivan proceeded to go door-to-door on the hall, informing the residents of her position and answering questions. She views first-years as new to Middlebury student government, explaining her method of visiting door to door in the hallways as "simultaneously campaigning, educating and increasing people's awareness about the existing channels of student governance."

Sullivan attended the International Student Organization (ISO) meeting Tuesday, and met with Tavern and Weybridge House residents that same evening in order to further broadcast her name and platform.

Sullivan said that she is eager to participate in Wednesday night's debate in The Grille which "facilitates the decision making process" for students and encourages everyone to come out and vote.

Cooper Rises to the Challenge

By Dan Phillips
Staff Writer

Michael Cooper '06, candidate for student co-chair of Community Council, acknowledged that his status as a first-year has raised many eyebrows. A lot of people around campus, he continued, only know him from his picture and platform article in last week's paper. "I'm going to try to mitigate that," he asserted. However, Cooper prides himself on his close association with most of his first-year classmates, who are often targeted by the upperclassmen candidates. For that reason, Cooper will focus his campaign on gaining the support of students in the grades above him.

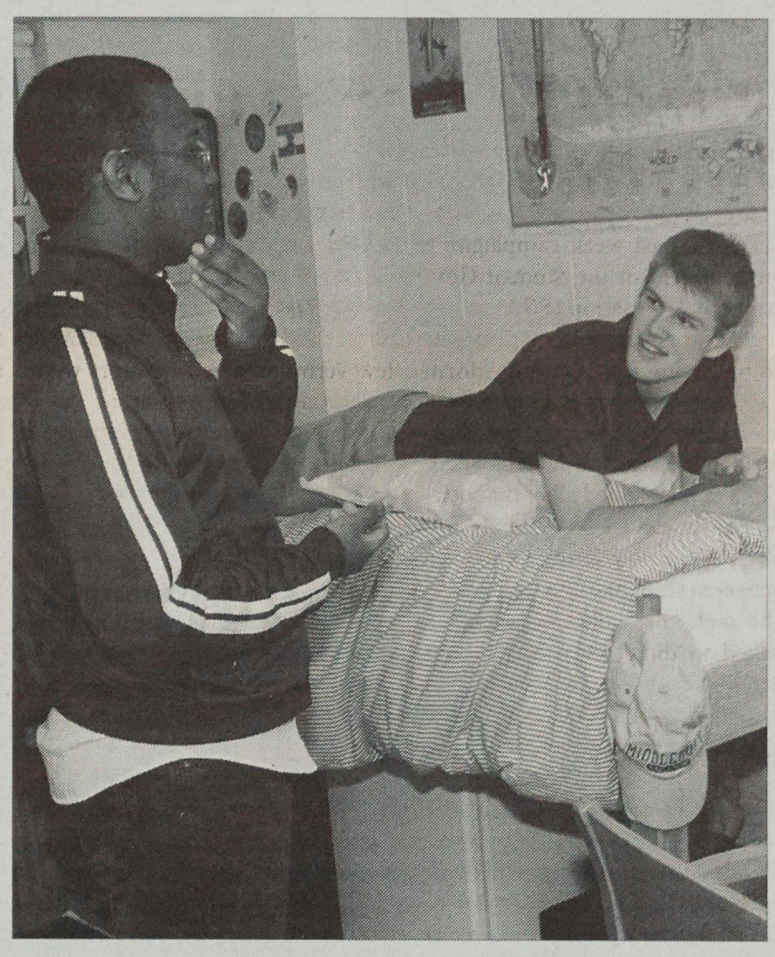
Cooper had his hands full last week — he was a part of two pieces in the African American Alliance (AAA) Fashion Show Saturday night. He began putting up flyers in Ross and Battell last Friday and Saturday, and made more to distribute this week for the days preceding the election. He went door-to-door last weekend in mostly first-year dorms, including Allen and Stewart. He plans to concentrate his campaign on the upperclassmen early this week. Cooper also attended the International Student Organization (ISO) meeting Tuesday night in the Mitchell Green Lounge.

Cooper summed up his experience as a first-year campaigner thus far, saying that the "experience has been definitely worthwhile and has taught me a lot." He noted, however, that, "most upperclassmen won't even give you the time of day."

He feels "very capable of doing the job," and will continue in his attempts to become a part of the SGA for his remaining years at Middlebury. He also said he will make an effort, no matter the outcome of the election, to be a part of the Community Council for the next three years.

"There are certain changes that need to be made and I believe in the changes I am trying to push," Cooper affirmed. "I feel caught up in a whirlwind. I didn't think campus politics would be this intense. The candidates truly have to distinguish themselves," Cooper said. He claimed that his unique background provides him with an experience and perspective that is absent from the students' governing body.

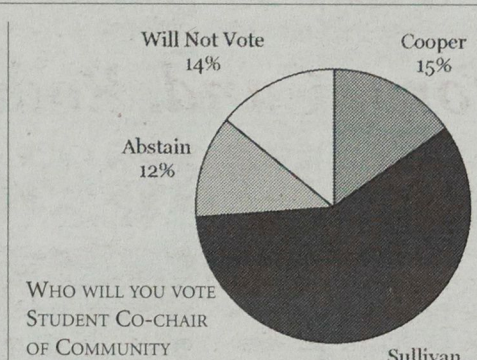
He hopes that he can manage to wield his influence over fellow first-years while targeting the upperclassmen during the remaining days of his campaign. But he still has "three glorious years," and hopes to leave his mark on Middlebury's student government.



Vlad Lodoaba

Cooper '06, at left, outlines his campaign goals to a relaxed student as his campaigning intensifies.

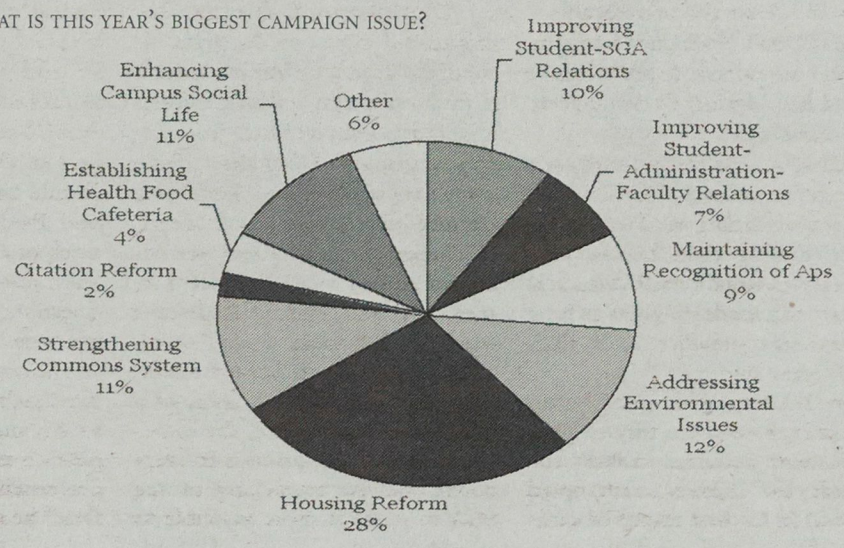
Survey Results Give Sullivan Big Lead Heading into Thursday's Elections



WHO WILL YOU VOTE STUDENT CO-CHAIR OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL?

177 students were polled outside Proctor Hall on Saturday, April 19.

WHAT IS THIS YEAR'S BIGGEST CAMPAIGN ISSUE?

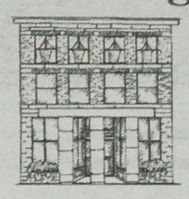


Data compiled by Andrea Gissing, Edward Pickering, Nicolas Emery and Claire Bourne

CLASSIFIEDS
Get the "bleep" out of the cold!
Mexico/Caribbean only $125
One way, all taxes included!
(or you can get Europe for
$189 each way.) Book online
www.airtech.com or (212) 219-7000.

Alice Radio. Paid Summer Internship.
Handle live events and promotions.
Perfect for marketing student.
388-9000. Ask for Bob. Or On-line:
Browevt@aol.com.

Classic Stitching
Custom Embroidery
.13 miles North of
Middlebury
in Historic Downtown
Vergennes.
Corner of Main & Green
802-877-3659
classic@middlebury.net



Beijing Battles SARS

By Tim McCahill
Alumnus Editor

Spring arrives in Beijing when the willow trees start to pollinate. The willows, which grace the sides of Beijing's avenues, sprout tufts of white seed that float across the city on winds blown in from the northwest. The tufts amass on the sidewalks in thin layers, making Beijing's spring as white as Vermont's is brown.

This year, the air is carrying something different — and it is scaring people to death. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) is front page news in Beijing. The fact that it is making the headlines is news in itself. Although the disease originated in southern China last November, the government did not acknowledge the existence of SARS until earlier this month.

Some headway is being made, however. Last Sunday the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) fired Zhang Wenkang, the health minister, and Meng Xuenong, the mayor of Beijing, because of their failure to report the extent of SARS in the Chinese capital. The move was historic: it has been more than a decade since Chinese government leaders were purged for their mistakes. Despite its significance, Zhang's sacking was announced by the New China News Service in a pithy one-line statement, while news of Meng's removal was given slightly more space in Beijing newspapers.

More attention has been placed on the revised number of SARS cases in Beijing, which skyrocketed to some 402 people following an announcement made by the government during a press conference last Sunday. The new figure is a sign that the CCP has finally capitulated to international pressure and, hopefully, has realized that continued underreporting of SARS poses a serious threat to people's well-being — and foreign investment.

Since the firing of Zhang and Meng and the acknowledgement of more SARS cases, the mood in Beijing has been one of relief tinged with distrust.

In recent weeks the government's silence on SARS fueled speculation on the number of sick in the city. Rumors begat doubt, which in turn begat fear and anger. Beijing cabbies, whose cars must now be disinfected twice a week, describe the government's attempt at disease control with strings of vituperation. More reserved residents just wonder whether it is safe to go out shopping.

Although people's concerns may have been alleviated, lingering doubts about how long the Party's new honesty will last remain, particularly given that the number of SARS cases elsewhere in China — in densely-packed cities like Shanghai and in regions bordering Guangdong Province, where the disease is to have originated — are still suspiciously low. It will take more than lip service and regular hand-washing to convince regular Chinese — and the outside world — that this is really the case.

SARS Sends Harbin Students Home

(continued from page 1)

ance company would even send a private jet to evacuate any affected student. It also hadn't reached Harbin, so we seemed safe. They handed out antiseptic wipes and told us to be careful. Last Thursday, however, they held an emergency meeting and told us that we had two days to pack our things and say goodbye: we were leaving on Sunday."

"There [is] no doubt that many factors played into CET's decision," said David Macey, director of off-campus study, "not the least of which were U.S., and specifically parental, perceptions." Macey continued to say that CET was also concerned that there were cases of SARS in Harbin that were being covered up, that healthcare in Harbin was not up to the standards in Beijing for such an "unknown" disease and, per the U.S. State Department's Travel Warning, that if a westerner were to get sick they would be unable to leave the city or the country to get treatment while relatives back home would be unable to come and visit them.

"Another fear," said Katz, "was that if the students didn't come home now, they might have greater difficulty getting back at a later date." The number of airlines that have reduced flight into East Asia as well as the quarantine procedures set up by various governments to combat the disease have further supported this possibility.

CET and Middlebury College have been carefully monitoring the progress of SARS since outbreaks were announced. "Since this crisis began," explained Lenhart, "we have made every effort to adopt a balanced view of the news. We realize how important is has been to our students to complete their semesters without interruption. Despite our hopes that we could continue, we have concluded that the potential risks to our students have now begun to outweigh the benefits."

Associate Professor of Chinese Thomas Moran said, "Because I have been following the SARS news, I was not surprised to hear that CET had cut its program short. I was not expecting it, but I was not surprised by it. My main reaction — and it is a reaction shared by my colleagues in the Chinese Department — was tremendous disappointment on behalf of the students."

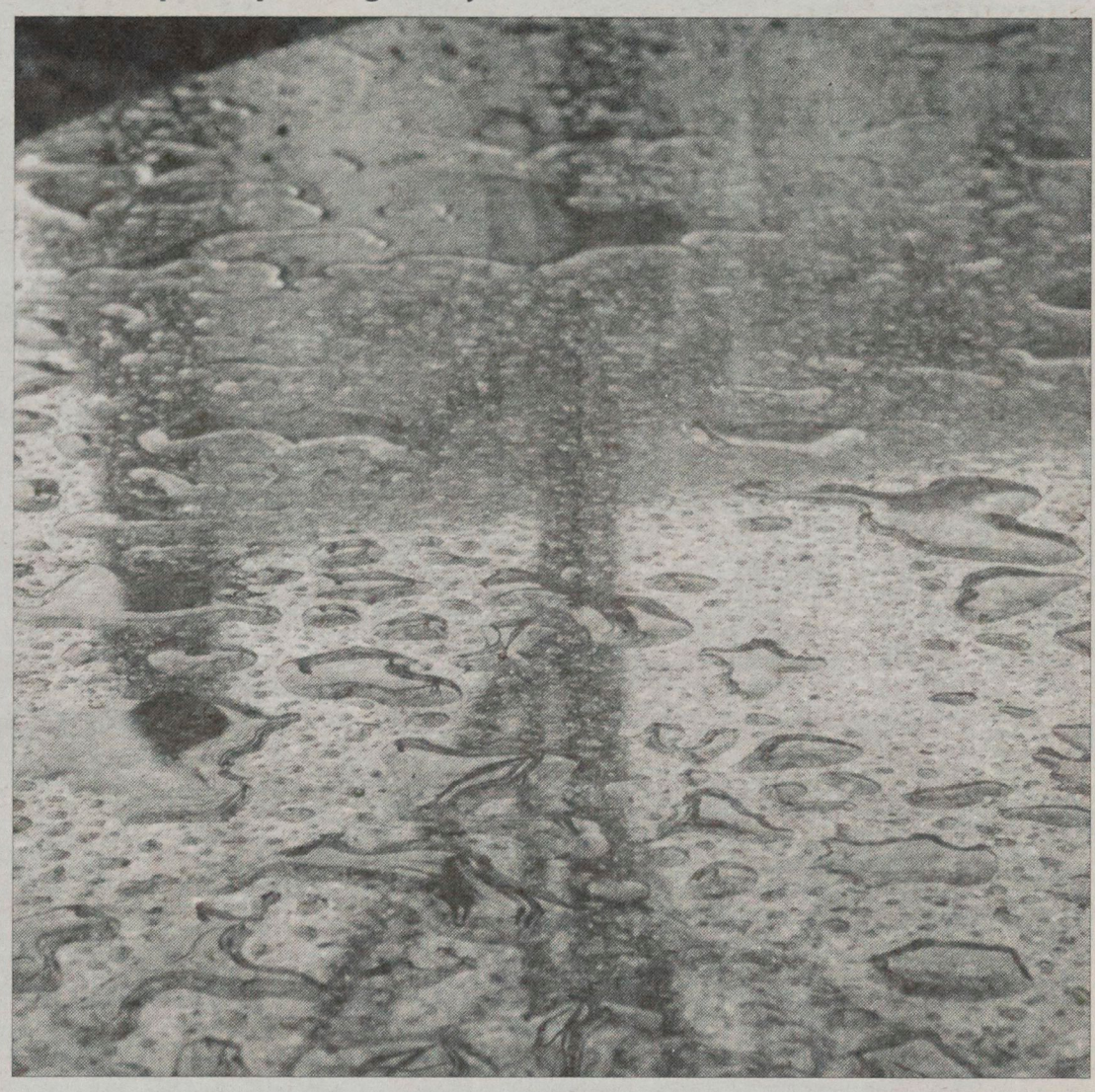
While SARS has been present in China since last fall, it was only recently that the Chinese Communist Party acknowledged the presence and the risk of the disease. "What happened in China when [the government] admitted the situation pretty much turned the tide," remarked Katz on the decision made by CET to end the program.

At present, eight students are scheduled to go abroad to China in the fall, seven of whom plan to enroll in CET's Harbin program. However, CET has not made any decisions at this time if the programs will be held or not. "As of the moment," said Moran, "all of us — the Off-Campus Study Office and the Chinese department — expect all eight students to go to China as planned." The Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Study at Tsinghua University in Beijing, the program in which the eighth student plans to enroll, has not cancelled their current program in China.

No firm decisions have been made as to how credit for the course will be determined. CET has stated that it will issue complete transcripts for all students, putting greater weight on the midterm exams that the students in Harbin have just completed, as well as allowing students to fax or e-mail assignments to faulty in China. "Given the circumstances," said Moran, "I believe that students should be given the chance to earn full credit for their study abroad by doing the assignments set for them by CET-Harbin."

Though the decision to cancel the program was made with the safety of the students in mind, it is still difficult to reconcile that fact to the students who had to leave China early. "I feel pretty overwhelmed by the situation, considering we had to pack up and evacuate the school in 72 hours," said Rui Bing Zheng '04, another student studying in Harbin. "Many of us had difficulty dealing with the fact of going home, and our semesters being cut short. I think shock was the overall reaction to the news."

Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head . . .



Vlad Lodoaba

Following a glorious weekend, *the skies poured buckets down on campus this week.*

Koenig Promotes Green Practices

(continued from page 3)

network of forest paths near Ripton to sign a letter to U.S. Senators Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.) and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) encouraging them to initiate environmental education legislation.

Koenig will intern at Hazon, a Jewish non-profit organization, in New York City this summer.

She said she would like to pursue a career in a similar field after graduate work and ultimately find herself teaching environmental studies with a religious focus at an institution of higher learning.

"I understand that my work is most powerful in combination — as part of a whole," she wrote in her essay to the Udall Foundation.

"In order to have an effective critical love of the movement that works towards protecting and honoring the natural world, I understand that my work, like Udall's, must extend far beyond myself."

PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

Date	Time	Incident	Category	Location	Disposition
4/9/03	10:05 PM	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
4/9/03	11:00 PM	Vandalism	Bullet Holes	Alumni Stadium	No Suspects
4/10/03	4:30 PM	Theft	Clothing and Wallet	Battell	No Suspects
4/10/03	11:49 AM	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Forest	Referred to Commons Dean
4/12/03	10:00PM	Alcohol	Possession by Minor	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
4/13/03	12:11AM	False ID		Carr Hall	Case Closed
4/13/03	1:10AM	Alcohol	Possession by Minor	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
4/13/03	1:15AM	Vandalism	Porch Railing Slats	Adirondack View 23	No Suspects
4/13/03	11:22PM	Alcohol	Possession by Minor	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
4/14/03	2:08AM	Vandalism	Outdoor Wooden Bench	Battell	No Suspects
4/15/03	9:40 PM	Alcohol	Providing to Minor	Stewart	Referred to Commons Dean
4/16/03	Unknown	Burglary	Money	Stewart	Open
4/16/03	10:35pm	Drug Violation		Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
4/18/03	10:50 AM	Unlawful Trespass		Gifford	No Suspects
4/19/03	10:30PM	Theft	Kayak	T lot (Kenyon Arena)	No Suspects
4/19/03	6:00PM	Collision Hit and Run	Non-injury	C lot (FIC)	Referred to MPD
4/20/03	3:45AM	Vandalism	Door Glass	Battell	No Suspects
4/20/03	10:29PM	Drug Violation		Brackett (Tavern) (OA)	Referred to Dean of Student Affairs
4/16/03	Unk	Burglary	Key	Gifford	No Suspects

Can Housing Equity Survive the Transition to the Commons System?

(continued from page 1)

David Edleson, dean of Cook Commons, explained that the most common criticism he has heard concerning room draw and the commons system is that "students can't continue, that they create strong relationships with their dean, the Faculty Head, their [commons] coordinator, and then have to move. This undermines the sense of community we are striving to build."

Additional buildings have created an imbalance in senior housing among the commons. Ross and Cook in particular favor seniors, while Brainerd's senior housing is limited.

mons. That is good for upperclassmen who want to live with their friends, but it places those wanting to continue in their commons at a disadvantage," said Edelson. "Again, the goal is to balance the various needs, wishes and priorities, but it can be tricky."

The commons draw has been an attempt to promote continuing within a particuar commons. "As the common system takes root, students' desire to continue in their commons has become a significant concern and one that we address through commons draw," said Edleson.

Students drawing in their current commons have priority over those attempting to draw in from other commons, but seniority still has precedence. As a result, many rising sophomores are squeezed out of commons that have better senior housing.

> Blocks do allow one person to draw in students from other commons. That is good for upper classmen who want to live with their friends, but it places those wanting to continue in their commons at a disadvantage.
>
> —David Edleson, dean of Cook Commons

"I think it is true that the new senior housing has had a big impact on room draw, and in the short term, it does undermine the commons idea," said Edleson. "However, in the long run, it will most likely balance out as we revise room draw to take such matters into consideration."

"I am hoping to find [a solution] that recognizes senior priority but also designates a certain amount of rooms for continuing [in one's] commons," he explained. "Next year, we hope to work all year on just this matter."

Future construction projects are intended to create a balance and make continuing in one's commons more feasible. The commons system is far from being perfected, but the College community is beginning to adjust, according to Residential Systems Coordinator Mariah McKechnie. "I suspect there will be an attempt to make continuing commons more feasible and important in room draw," she said. "Students seem to have developed a strong attachment to their commons and look forward to continuing. This is exactly what everyone hoped would happen, and as soon as facilities can accommodate continuing commons, I expect that it will continue to increase in popularity."

Block draw is another example of the imbalance between seniority and continuing commons. "Blocks do allow one person to draw in students from other commons. That is good for upper classmen who want to live with their friends, but it places those wanting to continue in their commons at a disadvantage."

It is important to realize, however, that the results of this year's room draw reflect a recent trend, and students should not be overly concerned. According to McKechnie, "The bottom line is that things appear to be normal, and unhoused students will be dealt with as best as possible."

It is possible that the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) will impact the College's housing situation for the next academic year. If students are persuaded to stay on campus instead of studying abroad next fall, a housing shortage could ensue. At room draw, it is assumed that a certain number of junior rooms will become available for unhoused students in summer draw, but if there is a significant decline in the number of students going abroad, the supply of rooms might not satisfy demand.

SARS could potentially influence housing, but come September, every student will have a room, said McKechnie. The College has worked hard to meet the housing needs of its students, and next year will not be an exception. The real issue is finding a way for the room draw process to complement the increasingly popular ideals of the commons system.

Fraternities • Sororities
Clubs • Student Groups

Earn $1,000-$2,000 this semester with a proven CampusFundraiser 3 hour fundraising event. **Our programs make fundraising easy with no risks.** Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works. Contact CampusFundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

The Middlebury Campus

Editorial Positions, Fall 2003

Applications are being accepted for the following positions with The Middlebury Campus.

Applications will be available and in the Campus office in the Hepburn Annex basement beginning Sunday, April 27. Please return completed applications to Drawer 30 by Friday, May 9. Interviews will be scheduled for Monday, May 12. If you have any questions please contact Devin Zatorski (4814) or Claire Bourne (6353)

Associate Editor: Assists editor-in-chief and managing editor in all aspects of newspaper production. Responsible for overseeing Monday night production and copy-editing the Monday night sections. Also must assist with final production beginning at 4 a.m. on Wednesday morning.

Online Editor: Responsible for importing all articles onto the Web site each Wednesday by 3 p.m. Must be comfortable with Web page design and HTML knowledge a plus. Also must be willing to keep in contact with Web site providers.

News Editor: Responsible for conceiving, assigning and editing news stories. Also responsible for layout of section. Must be aware of campus news and have a mind for creative journalism.

Assistant News Editor: Responsible for aiding the News Editors in conceiving, writing and editing news stories. Must be willing to help with the layout of the section as well.

Local News Editor: Responsible for conceiving, assigning and editing local news stories. Also responsible for layout of section. Must be interested in town and state politics and community events with a mind for creative journalism.

Opinions Editor: Responsible for soliciting and editing opinions pieces, letters to the editor and editorial cartoons. Also responsible for layout of section. Must have a keen interest in campus life and sharp eye for controversy.

Features Editor: Responsible for the creation and assignment of novel, interesting and pertinent story ideas. Simultaneously, this position offers an exciting level of freedom, which allows the editor to shape the section, as opposed to the section shaping the editor. Also responsible for layout of section.

Arts Editor: Main responsibility is creating and assigning articles for the section each week based on arts-related events at the College and in the surrounding community. Also responsible for layout of section.

Sports Editor: Assigns and edits all sports stories. Should be familiar with members and coaches of Middlebury athletic teams and in touch with non-varsity activities. Sports editors are responsible for laying out their section.

Assistant Sports Editor: Must be willing to aid sports editors in coming up with story ideas, as well as writing and editing submissions. Also should be available to assist with the layout of the section.

Photo Editor: Responsible for assigning and taking photos requested by each section. Must have good technical skills including knowledge

It Could Be Law

Profile Of A Vermont Bill

By Peter Faroni
Staff Writer

On April 7 the Vermont Senate passed a bill designed to increase the state's energy independence through the promotion of environmentally friendly power.

The bill, which passed by a margin of 21-3, included a "renewable portfolio standard" that mandates that utilities buy some of their power from renewable energy sources, which are environmentally friendly. This measure requires that utilities purchase one percent of their power from green sources in 2004, two percent in 2005, three percent in 2006 and then a percentage that will be set by the Public Service Board (PSB).

Senators noted in the bill that it was important to "encourage public and private investment in environmentally sound, sustainable and renewable energy resources, as well as in existing energy conservation technologies, and thereby to increase the degree to which Vermont's energy needs are met through nonpolluting, sustainable and renewable energy sources."

Aside from promoting environmental-friendly energy sources, these reforms are designed to stimulate the state's economy and promote efficiencies and innovation in the provision of electric service. Proponents believe that the increased independence and diversity of Vermont's energy will create new jobs and fortify the financial stability of the industry.

The legislation would promote "green pricing," which would allow customers to buy electricity that comes from renewable or clean sources. If such power, however, cost more than regular electricity, those customers alone would bear the added expense.

Additionally, the bill would give the PSB authority to try alternative regulation schemes allowing utilities to make greater profits if they meet standards for encouraging efficiency and using renewable energy, and reduce their profits if they don't. The state would be able to spend $750,000 from penalties collected from oil companies to support local projects that use alternative energy systems.

In an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*, Sen. Claire Ayer (D–Middlebury) noted that this bill would be part of a comprehensive energy program that, pending state funding, would increase the energy efficiency awareness of Vermonters. She also said that though "Vermont has high electricity rates, customers have lower bills due to energy efficiency."

Furthermore, Sen. Ayer pointed out, "The cost of wind energy has been cut in half over the past 10 years,"and noted that the cheapest energy now might soon be comparable in price to other types.

Aside from wind power, Vermont is also looking into a num-

(see Energy Bill, page 11)

Off-Campus Parties Harden Middlebury Student, Resident and Police Department Relations

By Megan O'Keefe
Assistant Local News Editor

Schuyler Van Horn

Middlebury students, residents and police have all expressed growing frustrations as off-campus partying grows more prevalent and student run-ins with the Middlebury Police Department have become more common.

The continued movement of weekend social life from on-campus events to parties hosted in off-campus senior housing has spurred growing tensions between College students, local residents, and the Middlebury Police Department. What College students have noted as a year of growing popularity in off-campus partying has been recognized by Chief Thomas Hanley of the Middlebury Police Department as one of the worst years of alcohol-related student conduct in Middlebury College history. "We have never seen a year like this, where the abuse of alcohol has been this bad on the part of college students," Hanley said. The Middlebury Police Department has received an increasing number of complaints from residents about noise, litter, and belligerent behavior resulting from neighborhood parties. Students, on the other hand, have traded in criticisms of the College alcohol citation policy for protests against police interference and tickets distributed for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

One Middlebury sophomore female expressed concern with police policy after she received a ticket in the mail citing consumption of alcohol by a minor two weeks after she was taken by friends to Porter Hospital due to a head injury that occurred when the intoxicated student slipped on ice at an off-campus party. The student was astonished to receive the citation despite the fact that she had not been breathalysed at the hospital.

Hanley strongly defended the ticket's issuance, noting an officer was dispatched to Porter Hospital at the request of "someone at the hospital." He continued, "It was readily apparent that [the student], suffering a head injury, had been consuming alcohol and was impaired due to alcohol consumption. Unlike DUI, there is no minimum threshold. People who have consumed alcohol exhibit both physical and physiological signs of consumption. These signs in themselves are sufficient to support a charge."

The female student is currently planning on contesting the charge in court. "I am incredibly frustrated," she said. "I think this will discourage students from seeking medical assistance in the future." Along with the $100 fine stipulated by her ticket, the student is required also to sit before a psychatrist, attend a class at Porter Hospital and complete 15 hours of community service. She is currently struggling to understand the fact that this punishment occured because she sought medical help. She added, "They never told me they were giving me a ticket."

While students are often accustomed to the College's alcohol citation policy that targets individuals currently in possession of an alcoholic beverage, off-campus behavior is regulated much more stringently by the police department. Hanley is quick to note that a first offense is a Vermont Civil Violation Complaint ticket, and criminal charges are not delivered unless a second incident occurs.

In addition to charges of consumption of alcohol by a minor, students have expressed concern over the treatment of designated drivers transporting intoxicated students. Several students attending a party on South Munger Street charged that the driver of a bus hired to transport intoxicated students to and from the off-campus party was pulled over and interrogated. While Hanley acknowledges that the bus driver was stopped by a Middlebury Police Officer, he said, "The driver was completely ignoring stop signs. He received two tickets that night from two different officers. [The officer] was protecting the students. [The bus driver] was driving like a maniac." Further praising the behavior of the police officers involved in the ticketing, Hanley said, "The language and the abusive conduct of the people on that bus was just something that I would characterize as repugnant. It was unjustified and they should be ashamed of themselves. It was clear to the officers that the students had been drinking. But, they retained their composure and did not engage those students." Remarkably, none of the students in the vehicle were ticketed by the officers.

On other occasions, Hanley noted, the police have amply demonstrated their support of designated drivers. When a car full of sophomore and junior students was pulled over on Weybridge Street due to a burnt out tail-light, the driver, contrary to rumors, was not held responsible for the intoxicated minors who did receive tickets. While designated drivers are encouraged by the police department, Hanley reminds students, "The presence of a designated driver doesn't reduce the liability on the part of the [passengers]. They are not supposed to drink. If they do, they risk a number of consequences. One of those, and actually the least troubling and invasive, is law enforcement action." In response to the complaint that officers have unfairly targeted student drinkers, Hanley responded, "In 2002, our officers stopped over 3,200 automobiles for a variety of equipment, regulatory and operation violations." There is no history on the part of the Middlebury Police Department of punishing designated drivers.

Responding to student complaints about a perceived "severity" on the part of the police department, Hanley said, "In all the cases, students were acting both irresponsibly and unlawfully. This inevitably brings them into contact with our officers who initiate action that serves as a consequence for this behavior. The policies and practices of the intracampus departments and services perhaps establish some misunderstandings with the realities of what occurs in the greater community. There is no double standard when it comes to our officers taking action. The fact that the college institution, by practice, does not initiate punitive consequences for this behavior is irrelevant to our operation."

On any weekend night, the police department receives a number of complaints from Middlebury residents who have reported, according to Hanley, students screaming and disturbing sleeping children and vomiting in their backyards.

He said: "It is disturbing to me to hear that students actually seem to excuse this conduct and indeed, villify the department for taking action in these cases. This attitude and perception seem to be the underlying cause for the problems that we face almost nightly. I hope the remainder of the springtime can find our neighborhoods and streets returned to the peace and tranquility the residents have earned. We don't enjoy conflict anymore than the students do, but this matter is squarely in their hands."

MS and CF Walks March into Town

Just as Middlebury residents and students get ready to step outside and enjoy spring, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society are giving the community another reason to get out into the sun.

On Saturday, May 3, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society is sponsoring a walk to raise money that will fund scientific research on multiple sclerosis (MS).

MS is thought to be an autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system (CNS). The CNS consists of the brain, spinal cord and the optic nerves. The walk, which begins outside of Middlebury Union High School, will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

On Sunday, May 4, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is holding its "Great Strides" walk in Middlebury at 2:00 p.m. The walk, which begins on Franklin Street near Twilight Hall, raises money through pledges to support Cystic Fibrosis (CF) research. CF is a life-threatening genetic disease, which affects the lungs and digestive system.

Both organizations encourage walkers to preregister. Registration forms and pledge sheets are available at Ilsley Library. More information on the Multiple Sclerosis Walk can be obtained at nmss.com and information on the Cystic Fibrosis Walk is available at cff.org.

82-Year-Old Del Sanders Gets By With A Little Help From Nina Patry

By Ryan Gamble
Staff Writer

Nina Patry, coordinator of international student records, recently became the guardian of Del Sanders, an 82-year-old man who suffers from cognitive disabilities due to a stroke and lives in a nursing home. Patry spoke to *The Middlebury Campus* about her experience, which she says has been educational and life-changing.

The Campus: How did you come to know Del Sanders?
Patry: I have known Del since 1989, when he began renting the small apartment in our home. Del was retired when I met him, and lived a very "organized" life — army influence, I suppose. He spent most of his time at home (in the summer he would check my gardens out back, especially the tomatoes, which he loves; in the winter he would talk to me while I shoveled the driveway, etc.). He has a dry, "grinch-like" sense of humor, and would often tease me — when I was gardening in the flowerbeds he'd say, "Why would you waste time growing something you can't eat?"

Then he'd turn around and water the flowers for me, and ask if we could have a certain one this year that he had particularly liked last year. Del always kept an eye on everything that was going on, both at our place and in the neighborhood.

He would come out whenever either my husband or I were outside, to chat for awhile. He was always ready to visit. In recent years, we'd have him bring his newspaper to us in the morning after he'd read it. Usually we'd see him every morning before we left for work.

One day I noticed that he was missing from his apartment. I called the police department and the hospital. It turned out that he had been driving when he had a stroke. He was on the wrong side of the road, but luckily someone stopped him and took him to the hospital.

The Campus: Does Del have any relatives or good friends that take care of him? Why did you decide to become his guardian?
Patry: Well, Del has relatives that live in Johnstown, Pa., a 10-hour drive from Rutland. But he hadn't seen them in 10 years. I had thought that Del was more or less on his own, but as I got more involved, I found out that he actually had quite a few good friends. One friend, Tom, met Del years ago when Tom had just graduated from high school and went to work at a local company where Del worked.

They became friends for life, despite the age difference and Del taught Tom to rock climb.

They also went cross-country skiing together. Tom visits Del at least every other day, often with his (Tom's) wife. We saw Tom at the nursing home, and he told us how Del spent 45 minutes tying knots one day — never tying the same knot twice.

Another friend, Nancy, is a woman who works as a bartender at the VFW [Veterans of Foreign Wars post], where Del went faithfully every day. Nancy made Del bring in his blood pressure on a slip of paper to show her every day before she would serve him. She would help him remember his appointments with doctors and so on. When Del was in the hospital, Nancy visited every day.

These are the sort of things I've learned about Del since becoming his guardian. I know him so much better, and in such a different way, than I ever did in the almost 15 years he was our tenant.

Vlad Lodoaba
Nina Patry, guardian of Del Sanders, helps the 82-year-old stroke victim with his finances and also visits him regularly.

The Campus: How is Del doing now in the nursing home? How does he interact with other people?
Patry: Del's cognitive abilities are impaired due to the stroke — he forgets people's names and has trouble recalling memories.

But while at times these difficulties dominate my interaction with him, sometimes his real personality will come out. Del comes off as a grinch at first, but he has a good heart and an irresistibly dry sense of humor. He has a cat named Gracey that I've taken care of for him. The first day I walked in he said to me, "You're Gracey!" So he remembers some things, but often gets confused.

The Campus: Can you talk more about Del's background? What did he do with his life?
Patry: Del was in the Tenth Mountain Division of the Army. When he joined the division he actually didn't even know how to ski, but he quickly became an expert skier, and he was given a lifetime pass to Killington. George, who was in the 10th Mountain Brigade with Del, has known him forever. I have not yet met George, but understand that he has visited. Del went on to found a survival school in Alaska. A lifetime outdoorsman, his hobbies included rock climbing, hiking and fishing.

The Campus: What do you feel you've learned from your experience with Del?
Patry: Well, firstly I was really surprised how difficult and time consuming it is to become a guardian. Being someone's guardian is very much like adopting (or even having) a child, [and] is a way to support community and people taking care of others.

I had to go to court hearings and present doctors' and psychologists' examinations proving that Del needs a guardian. And handling Del's finances and documents has proven to be a tremendous amount of work. As guardian, you are responsible for decisions about the ward's healthcare, finances (paying bills, tax prep, etc.), belongings, etc. Certain events, such as care meetings and especially appearances at Probate Court must be attended by the guardian. No one else can take the guardian's place at the court hearings.

I would encourage others to explore and accept this responsibility, should it come their way. It is a lot of work, and offers a great deal in return.

The Campus: When you go to the nursing home, what kind of activities do you do with Del?
Patry: Well, I found some pictures of his in his apartment, and I show them to him and try to get him to remember things about his life. I also take him on walks regularly. I know he likes the outdoors so I try to get him out as much as possible.

The Campus: What has been the most valuable part of your experience with Del?
Patry: Being a guardian is one way to enhance a sense of community, which is too often fragmented in our society. I really feel that a lot of people have come together in the common interest of taking care of Del. The people who work at the nursing home care about him and what they're doing.

Even with his dementia, Del has this magnetic personality that people really take to, and out of a common desire to take care of Del a community of people has formed.

Courtesy
In his younger days, as a member of the Tenth Mountain Division of the Army, Del excelled at skiing and rock climbing.

BROOKLYN → RURAL REALITIES ← MIDDLEBURY

By Crystal Belle
Staff Writer

The typical prospective college student worries about future courses, making new friends, fitting into the social scene and hooking up. However, the typical black woman coming to a school like Middlebury College, worries particularly about one thing: getting her hair done!

I will never forget the day I visited Middlebury, observing the town, which was no bigger than one New York City block. My first thoughts were, "Wow! Where and how will I ever get my hair done?!" This was a scary thought for me, as I often frequent New York City beauty salons in Brooklyn, Harlem and even the Bronx. In many New York communities, one is guaranteed to find hair salons packed with women of color of all ages at any given time on any given day. So here I was in Vermont, with the lovely O'Brien's as my sole option.

As I complained to my mother on the telephone about this calamity, she assured me that there had to be other black women on campus who did each other's hair in order to survive. Taking my mother's word, I searched the campus for a black woman, finally encountering one on my way into The Grille. Luckily, her hair was well coiffed, and seeing her actually made me feel at home and relieved. I kindly spoke to her about Middlebury, finally asking the question of the day: "Who does your hair?" She smiled with a look of total understanding and told me that although she did her own hair, many black women on campus wore their hair in braids due to the lack of "black hair" specialists in Vermont.

The only thing left for me to do was frown, as I had no intention of braiding my hair. Do you understand how difficult it is to sit in a chair for over five hours? Yes, that is what a black woman goes through while struggling to keep her hair intact in the middle of nowhere.

Living in Battell my freshman year did not help much as I was the only black girl on my hall. Every weekend I would spend hours in the bathroom attempting to get my hair "just right" like the way the Dominicans did it back home in the over-crowded, low-priced hair salons. As usual, someone would walk in and say "Crystal, how come it takes so long to do your hair?" I would endeavor to explain — in vain — as other women did not realize the weekly strife black women face here at Middlebury with their hair.

No, many of us do not wash our hair daily as a result of chemical relaxers. And no, we do not relax our hair because we do not love the natural texture of our hair. Instead of judging or assuming, simply ask us, while keeping in mind that it is a touchy subject. With that said, I sit here in my room, with a head full of braids which I got done at an African hair salon in Harlem.

Assessing Priorities

Act 250 for Vermont or Local Permit Reform for Middlebury?

By Kelsey Rinehart
Local News Editor

In recent years, Act 250, Vermont's 30-year-old land use development law, has been the subject of intense debate and ceaseless media coverage. In his 2002 gubernatorial campaign, now-Governor James Douglas '72 ran on a platform that included restructuring Act 250. Douglas, who vowed to make Vermont more business-friendly, embarked on his so-called permit reform tour. He is now pushing the State Legislature to reform the permit process before the end of the 2003 legislative year. On April 11, the legislature took a step in that direction, much to the dismay of Democrats.

PART ONE
OF A
THREE-PART SERIES

Douglas' drive for reform was answered when the Republican-controlled House of Representatives passed a bill that would reform local zoning regulations. To this bill was attached an entire Senate bill that had not been debated in House committees before it passed, causing a sharp divide along party lines among senators.

attached, was the result of a two-year study on contractors' problems in building, and attempts to streamline the permit appeal process, which many see as old and confusing, forming a single body — an Environmental Court — responsible for appeals. The bill would thus replace five appeals forums.

It could also allow more people to participate in the processes and encourage those who are interested in appealing a permit, whether local or state, to become involved earlier in the review process. Sen. Gerry Gossens (D- Addision), one of the bills chief proponents, said, "We see this as the first step toward real permit reform, not political permit reform."

Gossens was harking on Douglas' earlier comment that local permit reform was "not as urgent" as reforming Act 250. Jason Gibbs, Douglas' spokesperson, assessed the governor's position, saying, "The governor has heard time and again from a variety of employers of different sizes that the most pressing need is for reform of the state permit process."

> I'm doing this because I feel it's very important to put these bills together, and if I don't, I'm not sure either bill will pass. We've seen the Senate's reluctance to do anything on (the) Act 250 process.
>
> – Representative Steven Larrabee (R- Danville)

Legislators Praise the Decision

The Senate bill that was speedily

The bill's chief supporters, among them several business groups, said the measure would significantly improve the process, which they believe is outmoded and hindered by bureaucracy, making it more suitable and coherent.

"This bill will send a message that we want to encourage business growth and development, but not at the expense of the values we all cherish as Vermonters," said Chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee Rep. William Johnson (R-Canaan). Chairman of the House General Housing and Military Affairs Committee Rep. Steven Larrabee (R-Danville) agreed, commenting, "I'm doing this because I feel it's very important to put these bills together, and if I don't, I'm not sure either bill will pass. We've seen the Senate's reluctance to do anything on [the] Act 250 process."

Opponents Voice Concerns

Dissenters, however, were very vocal in their opposition, and said that the local permit reform bill did not do what Republicans said it would. Rep. Betty Nuovo (D-Middlebury) explained the changes in an interview with *The Middlebury Campus*. "Since 1995, what the head of the Environmental Board has done … has been to go through all past decisions. A decision was made on the sewer plant development that did not meet the town plan. So they changed the town plan. That's precedence. Now, you appeal to Environmental Court instead of the Environmental Board. So now, 30 years of precedent is gone. [Now] they make their own decisions based on their own facts," she said. Nuovo also noted that this brought on many complications. "You have filing fees, hearings on motions, interrogatories and all that at great expense, and they can never get anything done in three months," she added.

Rep. George Cross (D-Winooski) agreed, and commented that this bill was essentially meaningless."The fact of the matter is, there is no reform of the permitting process in this bill. Before this bill there were 35 different permits … and after this bill passes, there will still be 35 different permits," he said. "Changing the appeal process cannot masquerade as permit reform."

Furthermore, legislators noted that the way in which the bill was sent over and quickly voted on reflected the nature of Act 250 reform in a very negative light. Nuovo said that when the House received the lengthy bill, she and other Senators were appalled that they could not read and discuss it. "'We can't do this, we have to have a chance to read this 100-page document,'" she said during the session.

Rep. John Tracy (D-Burlington) said of the Republican members of the legislature, "They're just doing this to play politics. This is politics over policy when this was supposed to be what's good for Vermont." House Democratic Leader Gaye Symington (D-Jericho) agreed, noting that not a single committee completely took a vote on the measure. "It seems like a pretty irresponsible way to build a bill. I'm really concerned what that says about the committee process and how much we value it," she commented.

The House's motion caused a stir in the Senate, moving legislators to voice their concerns with equal ardor. President Pro Tempore of the Senate Peter Welch (D-Windsor) called it "a transparent move [that] just reinforces the inference that we're now in a political fight as opposed to a substantive debate. If they pass a bill, basically sight unseen, it raises the question of what the intention is. It creates a caricature of what the process should be."

Claire Ayer (D-Addison), a newcomer to the Statehouse, said in an interview with *The Campus*, "The really sad thing is that it's become a matter of politics rather than policy.

She continued, "As a freshman I was really naïve to think that I could not be involved in things like that, but I'm in the middle of it."

Changing Act 250 in 2003?

Welch refused to compromise the House bill regarding state regulatory process that will come to the Senate by rushing it through. "The House took two months to do Act 250, and now they want to do it in the Senate in two weeks," Nuovo said.

Douglas, on the other hand, has publicly criticized the Senate for deliberating, and not attacking the central issue — Act 250 itself.

Douglas said, "I remain concerned that Senate Democrats [are] using some unfounded excuses to defend their inaction," he said. "The tone of their remarks indicates that they don't understand the difficult problems our people are facing with the permitting system." He touched on his commitment to fulfilling campaign promises, continuing, "This is particularly disturbing because most of them promised permit reform during their campaigns."

> The fact of the matter is, there is no reform of the permitting process in this bill. Before this bill there were 35 different permits … and after this bill passes, there will still be 35 different permits. Changing the appeal process cannot masquerade as permit reform.
>
> – Representative George Cross (D-Winooski)

Both Ayer and Nuovo agreed that Act 250 has many benefits. "The best thing about Act 250 is that it caused us to think about the ramifications of development in a 360-degree field. We've been more judicious in the kinds of development we have in Vermont," she said.

Ayer did agree with almost all of her fellow legislators in noting that the Act needed improvement. "It needs to be updated," she said. "We bit off more than we can chew in one year." Many Democrats agree that Douglas' ambitious plan regarding Act 250 was too much for the legislature to handle. Welch said, "The big issue is this: does the governor want to have a political fix or a substantive reform on Act 250?

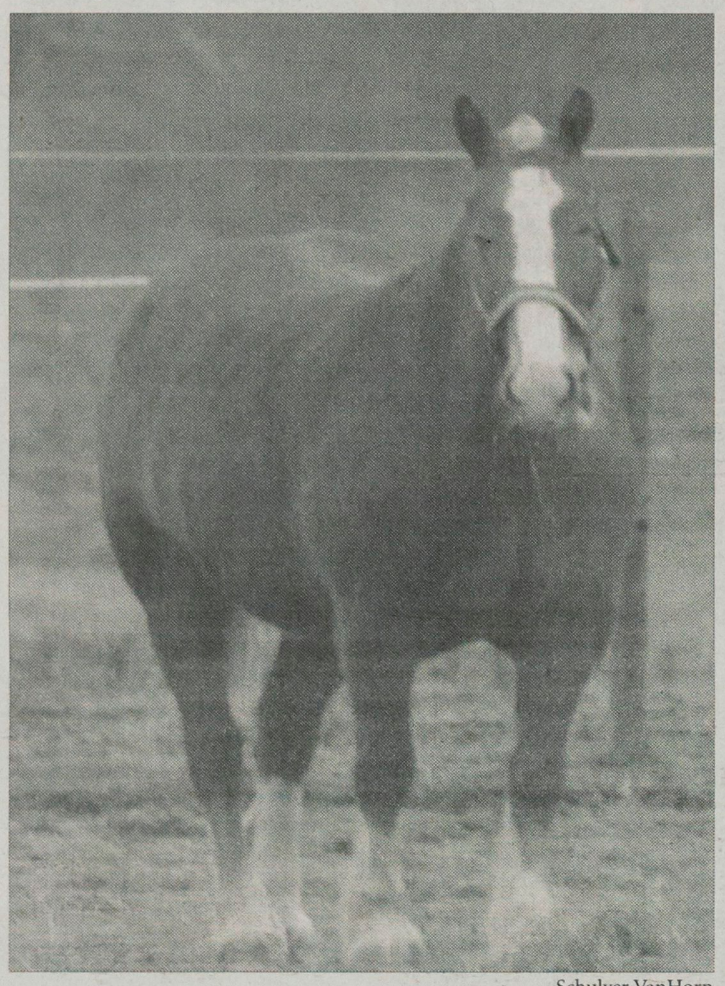
And the question is open."

Home Grown Support

Schuyler Van Horn

Drew Pugsley '04.5, *chairman of the Vermont College Republican Federation (center), joins other students and local residents in a rally in support of American troops in Iraq on Sunday, April 13 on the town green.*

Spring Fever



Schulyer VanHorn

Horses, much like Middlebury students, are spending more and more time outside as the sun warms Vermont.

Ruth Stone and Karin Gottshall Share Reflections

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

About 45 people showed up in the downstairs of the Ilsley Public Library Thursday night to listen to award-winning author and poet Ruth Stone and local poet Karin Gottshall.

Both writers sat at a table in the front of the room, their presence commanding the attention of the entire audience. Nearly 90 years old, Stone could have passed for Gottshall's grandmother. Even so, she remained vibrant and lively all night, frequently compelling the audience to laughter with her jokes and poems.

The two writers expressed a mutual respect for each other — Gottshall for Stone's experience and reputation, and Stone for Gottshall's skill as a poet. Gottshall recalled writing a college paper about Stone and her work, and said, "I never would have imagined that I would be reading with [Stone]." Stone at one point mentioned how she recognized Gottshall's talent the first time she heard the younger woman read her poetry, and described her to the audience as "a great poet."

Gottshall offered to begin reading first, calling herself a "warm-up act" for Stone. Instead, Stone proposed that each poet take turns, reading three works before alternating. The strategy worked well, juxtaposing the older poet's work with that of the younger so that neither retained the spotlight for too long.

Stone, a professor at the State University of New York at Binghampton, has spent the latter part of her life in Vermont. She read from her latest book, a collection of poems entitled "In the Next Galaxy," which she published in 2002. For the book, her eighth collection, Stone received the 2002 National Book Award. During the same year, the American Poets Society also presented her with the Wallace Stevens Award, a $150,000 prize the Society describes as recognition of "outstanding and proven mastery in the art of poetry."

The Thursday night reading was organized by the Ilsley Public Library and the Vermont Book Shop to give Stone a chance to present her work to the public. Several of her books were available for purchase after the readings.

Gottshall has not published any of her own books, but has works in several poetry publications. She has received the praise of Stone, and also that of the audience, who listened to her poetry with approving sighs and nods of the head.

After Gottshall's first three poems, Stone began reading her poetry. She opened with "The Nose," a piece she called "an old one." Even so, the poem was filled with humor, and the audience laughed several times at the images and phrases, none of which seemed outdated.

When Stone finished reading her first set of poems, Gottshall pointed out the timelessness of the writer's work saying, "My poems seem frilly and old-fashioned compared to Ruth's."

The two read for a little under an hour before answering questions from the audience about their writing experiences. Gottshall's subjects ranged from her grandfather to the heart. In reference to one poem, "Story," Gottshall said, "I took my favorite novel and took all the people out of it." She later revealed the novel to be Charlotte Bronte's "Jane Eyre."

Stone expressed her voice for humor with "The Nose" and also disclosed other aspects of her writing with works that were at times both more personal and more serious. In the poem "In the Next Galaxy," Stone dreams of a better world.

At a few points during the evening, Stone's worsening vision prevented her from reading her own poems. Instead of hampering the event, her vision problems gave the two poets the opportunity to work together. Gottshall read the elder poet's works, and Stone joined in when she could recite the poems from memory.

Both poets said they began writing as children, which has helped them nurture their skill. "Everybody is a real poet," said Stone. "The natural thing to do is to be a poet." When a member of the audience asked the two poets how often they write, Gottshall replied, "I write something every day, like grocery lists."

> Everybody is a real poet. The natural thing to do is to be a poet.
>
> — Ruth Stone

"I've written poems on the backs of grocery lists," responded Stone.

Both poets related their own work to other forms of art, particularly painting. Each of the writers has done her own painting, and both have painters in their families. Gottshall cited her mother's painting as one of the influences on her poetry. One of the members of the audience later remarked that her "poetry is full of color."

"All the art forms feed each other," commented Stone.

In addition to her mother, Gottshall pointed to teachers, Emily Dickinson and Elizabeth Bishop as inspiration and influences. When asked about her influences, Stone joked that her mother would recite Tennyson's "In Memoriam" to her as a child, so perhaps the love of poetry rubbed off onto her as a young girl.

The night allowed for a wonderful opportunity to listen to two local poets, one older and established, the other young and full of potential.

Spring Plantings

Schuyler Van Horn

***Local farm activity** has accelerated quickly over the past two weeks as melting snow has left ground ready for planting.*

Energy Bill Wins Approval of Vermont Senate

(continued from page 8)

ber of hydroelectric dams that are on the Connecticut River as potential sources of renewable energy. Ayer affirmed that renewable energy is important for the long run goal of establishing Vermont's energy independence.

Sen. Mark Shepard (R–Bennington) proposed an amendment that would require all renewable energy that the state purchases to be purchased from sources within the state.

The impetus behind the amendment was to prevent Vermonters from taking an attitude of "not in my backyard," and preventing the necessary power sources (namely wind turbines) from being constructed in the state.

The amendment was not included as part of the final bill because a portion of the hydroelectric dams that the state is considering as possible sources are actually located in New Hampshire and would therefore be excluded from the list of possible energy sources.

The bill is now headed for the Vermont House. There is also an alternative bill proposed which excludes the portfolio standards based on the fact that they may prove to be prohibitively costly. Vermont's largest employer, IBM, as well as Gov. James Douglas '72 believe that the portfolio standard could be potentially harmful to Vermont's already struggling business climate.

Swift House Inn

Features unsurpassed atmosphere and elegant lodging.

Two blocks north of town at the corner of Route 7 and Stewart Lane, Middlebury
802-388-9925 • www.swifthouseinn.com

Four Diamond Award

Editorial

Casting the Ballot for Change: SGA Presidential Endorsement

Brace yourself. We're about to break with tradition.

For years *The Middlebury Campus* has thrown its support behind the shoe-in candidate for student body president. The resume that brims with experience. The one who occupies a cushy cabinet post. The SGA pedigree.

This year we call for a fresh start. And we're confident Sam Rodriguez '04 can deliver just that.

He's an SGA outsider — a classic "reform" candidate. Though he hasn't been groomed for the job, he brings palpable energy and a genuine commitment to redefining the SGA/student relationship.

His interpersonal skills — coupled with his pledge to man an SGA table outside the dining halls twice weekly — assured this editorial board that he'll thrust the SGA back onto students' radar screen.

More than any single platform item, we're impressed by Rodriguez's emphasis on student interaction. He's the populist of the bunch. He'll get out there and talk to people.

While his opponents structure their platforms around relatively stale topics, Rodriguez tempts us with tabula rasa. Issues already in the SGA pipeline — like TIPS and alcohol citation reform — are no longer compelling enough to merit our endorsement. We don't want spillover from this year's Senate session. We want new ideas. And above all, we want a leader with the energy — and the audacity — to get things done.

Rodriguez proposes launching a health food dining hall and making the Health Center's HIV/STD testing free of charge. He calls it setting "reasonable goals." We call it generating ideas instead of rehashing them.

A few words of advice: if elected, Rodriguez must take his cue from experienced SGA senators and the student body at large. Though his candidacy benefits from "outsider" status, he'll have to listen to those who know the system. Only then will he prove himself as a leader.

We also caution Rodriguez not to underestimate the art of compromise. He's firm in his resolve, but in the world of student politics, diplomacy should figure just as prominently as rabblerousing.

Rodriguez must also tailor his presentation to his audience. The decidedly bold style that impresses the editorial board could easily alienate a roomful of College administrators.

All said, though, we're excited about the outsider. Rodriguez is a vote for energy over experience. And he's a vote for change over the status quo.

Picking the Next SCCOCC

Erin Sullivan '04 boasts a distinguished record of political service. She's negotiated the multi-layered bureaucracy of Community Council, represented constituents as an SGA senator and presided as Speaker of the Senate. Given the bureaucratic nature of Community Council, the student co-chair needs to be schooled in the system — from nuances of Handbook language to subcommittee structures that would confound even the most astute observer.

Sullivan's general experience in student government would also balance off newcomer Rodriguez, who we hope to see serving alongside her on the SGA's executive tier. Sullivan exudes the confidence of a tested leader. She stood before our editorial board and coolly laid out her agenda, touching on commons-related, social and environmental items.

We commend her support for the College's environmental "Peak of Excellence." Sullivan pledged to address disappearing Proctor cups and to introduce fair-trade coffee into the dining halls. Small, yet achievable goals. She rounds out her platform with a farther-reaching proposal on portable financial aid. This initiative — with an eye towards equity — would ensure that Middlebury students studying abroad on non-Middlebury programs continue to receive their financial aid package. Sullivan is well equipped to shepard it through the process.

Opponent Michael Cooper '06, while thoughtful and energetic, is not yet seasoned enough for this office. We urge him to join the Community Council as a student member and develop a working knowledge of the system. He's a candidate we hope to interview again.

The Middlebury Campus

Editor-in-Chief
Devin Zatorski

Acting Managing Editor
Claire Bourne

Associate Editor
Jonathan White

News Editors
Nicolas Emery
Andrea Gissing
Edward Pickering

Arts Editors
Erika Mercer
Suzanne Mozes

Features Editors
Matt Christ
Caroline Stauffer

Local News Editor
Kelsey Rinehart

Sports Editors
David Lindholm
Kate Nerenberg
Peter Yordan

Assistant Local News Editor
Megan O'Keefe

Opinions Editors
Gale Berninghausen
Jake Kuipers

Photo Editors
Vlad Lodoaba
Schuyler Van Horn

Online Editor
Ben Dow

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published in Middlebury, Vermont by the Student Government Association of Middlebury College. Publication is every Wednesday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on an Apple Macintosh network running QuarkXPress 4.1, and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, VT. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is Friday at 5 p.m. for the next week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, VT 05753. Subscription rate: $50 per year or $30 per semester within the United States; $60 per year or $45 per semester overseas. Business phone: (802) 443-5737.

Officer, hurry! The treehuggers are at it again this year!
PUBLIC SAFETY
I've spent two years climbing up this tree. Elect me!
Want a printer? Want me to sing another karaoke? Elect me, I'll give you anything!
I will not let the faculty interfere with an education.
SpringFling! Weeee!!!!! Elect me!
I have no experience climbing this tree. Elect me!
Those aren't treehuggers. They're SGA candidates.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Whether or not you believe that the U.S. invasion of Iraq was justified on humanitarian and national security grounds, two facts remain: much of the country is now in ruins, and many Iraqis are still without basic services and supplies. The U.S. generals in charge of Baghdad have promised to restore water and electricity as soon as possible, and we can only hope they will fulfill that promise. Even when services are up and running again, many citizens will still be without homes and personal possessions.

As we wait for the U.S. military to make good on their promise to build a free and stable Iraq, let's do what we can to help those Iraqis whose livelihoods were damaged by the bombing and ground force campaign against their government. We should all — those of who marched for peace in Iraq and those who supported a military solution to the problems there — show the Iraqis that we have not forgotten them after "victory" was declared.

The American Friends Service Committee, an organization based in Philadelphia, is currently collecting relief kits to send to Iraqis. They ask that we include the following items: 4 bars of soap, 1 plastic bottle of shampoo (13 - 24 ounce size or 450 - 830 milliliters), 1 tube of toothpaste (minimum 8 ounces or 100 milliliters), 4 adult-size toothbrushes (leave in packaging),1 hairbrush, 1 wide-tooth comb, 1 finger nail clipper, 1 box of adhesive bandages (minimum 40, assorted preferred).

Please consider putting together one of these kits, and if you do, put it all in a plastic bag and drop it of at Greenfield's Mercantile, across from the Alpine Shop in town, and include about $7 to cover shipping to Iraq.

— Alex Fuller '05

To the Editor:

Recently I had the pleasure of attending the French department's production of Fantasio. A fusion of hard work, personality, and creativity, the play was at once amusing and thought provoking. Professor Nunley's portrayal of Fantasio was excellent, as he moved effortlessly between sullen gent and eloquent jester, and the student actors betrayed wonderful personality and enthusiasm.

I was thus deeply disappointed by the review of the play, printed in last week's Campus. The review noted a "middle school charm" in the production, though it focused principally on the inaccessibility of the play to members of the audience who are not fluent in French.

On the contrary, the production provided an unusual chance for students of French to challenge their language abilities. For others, Fantasio was high quality theatrical event. Many thanks and congratulations to the cast of Fantasio!

— Edith Honan '03

Corrections

An article on page 5 of last week's news section, entitled "First-Year Cooper Challenges Experience with Optimism," did not finish. The last sentence should have read, "Cooper believes his relative newness to the school has lent him a greater awareness of what must be changed."

Two people in "Campus Voices" were misidentified last week. Andrew Schwetfeger's name appeared beneath Chris Loeffle's photograph and vice versa. *The Campus* regrets these errors.

Opinions Submission Policy

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for reasons including, but not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper.

The Campus welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 700 words or less. Submit works to campus@middlebury.edu, Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editor by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* retains the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus

Business Department
802-443-5737

Business Director
Gabriel Ortiz

Assistant Business Director
Heather Harris

Advertising Manager
Courtney Hillebrecht

Advertising Associate & Distribution Manager
Anne Jennings

Liberal Voice - May Boeve '06.5 -

The word "victory" on the cover of *Time* magazine at a newsstand was so large that I read it from 50 feet away. So I guess that means that freedom and democracy are flowing into Iraq at the same speed as the smooth stream of oil on its way out. I dislike cynicism, but cannot help but be exasperated by the mainstream media's sugarcoating of war's consequences and wonder about its truthfulness.

"Our victory in Iraq is certain, but it is not complete," President George W. Bush said last Tuesday. We are still at war, then, and as citizens of this warring nation, where do we turn to inform ourselves about the acts we are committing? Turning left, we are presented with stories that seek to illuminate details often absent in the mainstream press. Turning to the right illuminates the quest of an altruistic nation seeking to remove the dictator our nation currently loves to hate following those evil communists who were fashionable to despise in the 1980's. Obviously, neither of these opposing directions yields a balanced perspective that most emphasizes the truth. But more and more, I wonder about this truth we demand from the news media. Is this precious commodity something deliverable by way of a television screen, newspaper or radio announcement?

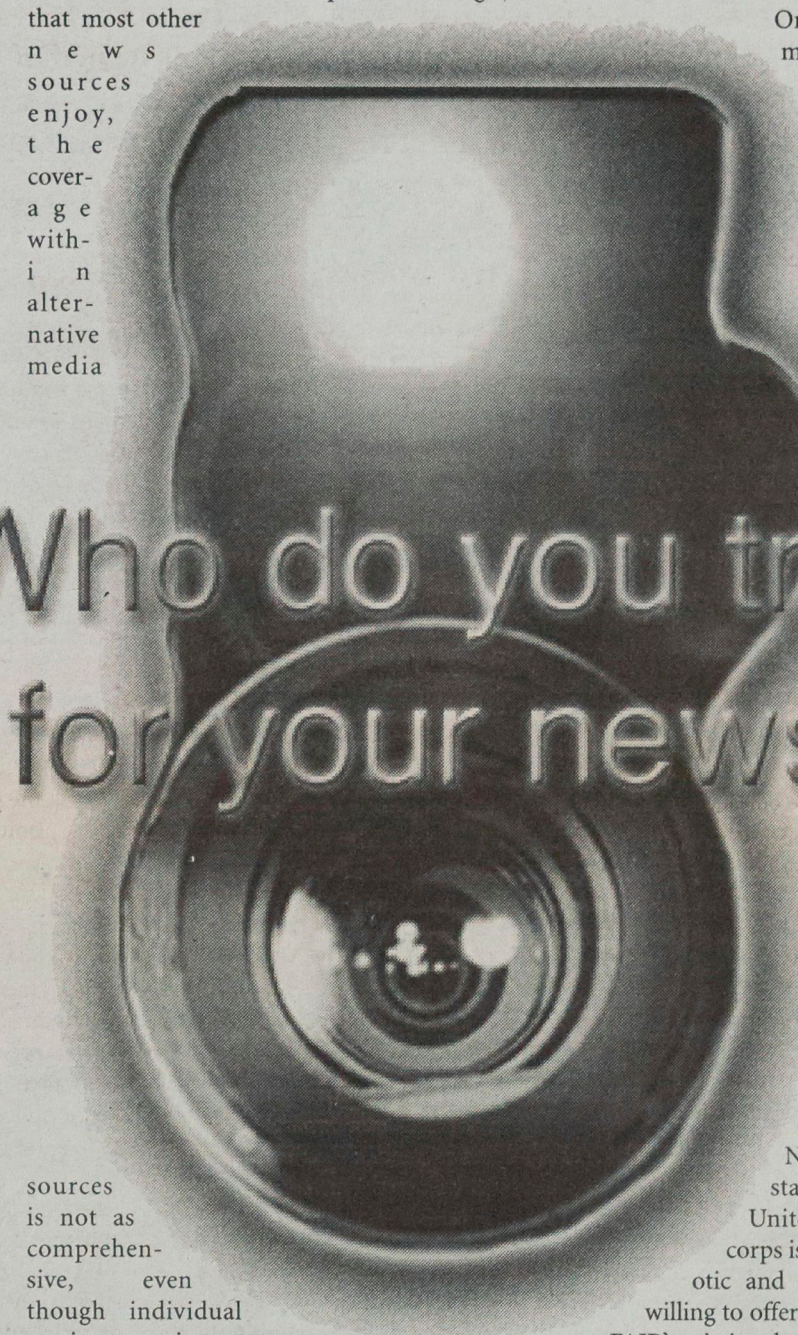
In last Saturday's *New York Times* a large, full color photo of children stacked in a refrigerated room (for lack of hospital space and) shocked me. This is truth, pure and unadulterated: the truth of war casualities. Imagine if these images were all we knew of the conflict: not the optimistic quotes from the battlefield or the promises that we are indeed saving yet another country for democracy (a.k.a. working for our well-oiled capitalist machine). If all we saw was the sort of unassailable truth of graphic photographs, I doubt that so many could stomach the justification garbage we've been spoon fed ever since we didn't get the foothold we wanted in the Middle East after the last Persian Gulf conflict.

So in order to expect a corporate entity (the U.S. "free press") to capture this suffering most truthfully is much to ask: for. News of others' suffering should not be easily accepted. Anyone who has ever attempted to put into words something they have seen, be it commonplace or noteworthy, comes short of truly portraying the event. Coming short of fully encapsulating what occurs in the context of war is not a violation of The Truth, but a mere shortcoming of the human vocabulary.To travel, then, from the reporters' eye to a five-second blurb on CNN is a far cry from accuracy in reporting. But it is not dishonest. That is, of course, if the corporate controllers of the news have not bought the stories or the government has not used its influence to bastardize them.

In these cases, the news can be very dishonest. For example, the coverage of the CIA's invasion of Guatemala and installation of a dictator, resulting in 200,000 deaths. The headline? "Guatemalans Spontaneously Revolt Against Their Elected President and Welcome a Military Government Endorsed by the U.S." In the face of such shocking examples, how do we keep abreast of the real news?

Fortunately, there are a growing number of alternative news sources like Truthout and Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR), that present a different picture, focusing on fine points.

However, without the corporate funding that most other news sources enjoy, the coverage within alternative media sources is not as comprehensive, even though individual stories go into more detail. Thus, the best way I've come across to stay well informed is to consult both types of sources, using one to verify the other.



The mainstream news media is not inherently flawed, but as long as we keep watching, listening and believing, we give it a generous gift: the power to influence how we think. When this power is manipulated, so is the truth that the news is supposed to contain. While we can pursue the truth in the news media, we cannot expect it. Whether we deserve it is an entirely different matter. Eyes and ears wide open, then, in pursuit of "truth."

Conservative Voice - Drew Pugsley '04 -

Although everything should be taken with a grain of salt, I have never seriously considered the veracity or bias of the American media. Certainly everyone from every perspective has an agenda. As large, profit-maximizing corporations, we can fairly assume that most media outlets want to sell the most papers or attract the most viewers. However, the bias or balance in recent coverage of the conflict in Iraq has been heavily scrutinized by advocates of alternative news sources.

One of the more mainstream alternative news sources is Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR, www.fair.org). While many more mainstream news sources may be becoming more entertainment based, more careful consideration of this topic has yields no cause for alarm. Fox News notwithstanding, the United States press corps is not overly patriotic and has always been willing to offer its criticisms.

FAIR's mission, however, is "providing constructive critiques when called for and applauding exceptional, hard-hitting journalism."

I have a difficult time believing in their fairness and accuracy when FAIR dedicates an entire segment of its Web Site to criticizing President Georege W. Bush. A particular excerpt from Mark Crispin Miller continues to debate Bush's "non-election" in 2000.

Also questionable are four of the top articles on FAIR's "What's New at FAIR" page entitled "Is Killing Part of Pentagon Press Policy?," "A Lethal Way to 'Dispatch' the News," "Media Should Follow Up on Civilian Deaths: Journalist's Evidence that "U.S. Bombed Market Ignored by U.S. Press" and "U.S. Media Applaud Bombing of Iraqi TV."

In the fourth story, a March 27 media advisory, U.S. media officials discuss the dismantling of Iraqi television facilities and FAIR claims, "It's worth noting that CNN, like other U.S. news outlets, provides all these functions for the U.S. government." The media in Iraq was a state-owned institution that Saddam Hussein used to manipulate and brainwash his people. To compare the United States and its leaders and media to Saddam Hussein's former Iraqi regime is outrageously asinine.

In an op-ed piece, Eason Jordan, CNN's chief news executive, tells how the Iraqi government silenced him. Iraqi officials threatened bodily harm to Jordan, his family and his co-workers in order to ensure that the truth never reached the United States. He tells the story of a cameraman from CNN's Baghdad Bureau, an Iraqi citizen, who was abducted and tortured.

This man endured weeks of electro-shock torture and beatings in hopes that he would tell the Iraqi government that Jordan was a CIA operative. Through this article, Jordan proved his moral and journalistic integrity as well as Iraq's obvious disregard for international law and human rights. This story, which ran in the April 11 edition of *The New York Times*, was, strangely, not picked up by FAIR.

The language in the titles of some of these articles is incredibly inflammatory and certainly does not live up to FAIR's standards of "exceptional, hard-hitting journalism." The beautiful thing about freedom, any Iraqi will now be able to tell you, is that debate is expected on virtually every issue.

The front page of the latest *National Review* will direct you to articles dealing with America's successes and failures in the war with Iraq. *National Review* is not a generally unbiased publication, but how many of you *New Republic* readers subscribe to the *National Review* for a differing opinion?

Sept. 11 has resulted in an admirable amount of patriotism in war supporters and protesters alike. The mainstream media has, as a profit-maximizing enterprise, cashed in. However, alternative news sources that show pictures of sick children in Iraq present their argument from some intellectual high ground that, among people who are making fact-based arguments, does not exist.

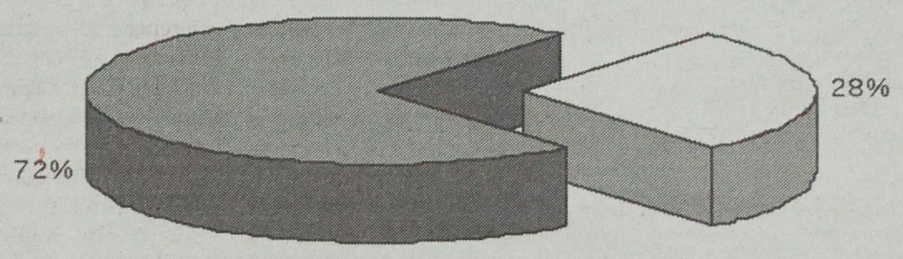
An informed person who has participated in debate and considered the facts can come to a reasonable conclusion that the United States should not have fought in Iraq. A decision to support the war can be equally reasonable.

Alternative news sources, in an almost condescending way, present what they think is some sort of revealed truth. I know that all the information necessary to make an informed decision on any issue is available in the United States, which is more than can be said for many countries. If everyone can see past the agendas that are inherent in every liberal democracy, we all can have more informed, intelligent debate.

ONLINE POLL

Should Middlebury College Accept AP Credits?

168 people polled at www.middlebury campus.com


28%
72%
Yes, students who worked to earn AP credits have the right to use them
No, AP courses give some students an advantage and pale in comparison to Middlebury's rigorous curriculum

SPiN Trails, Education Programs Need Help

-Leah Koenig '04-

As a Middlebury student and a nature enthusiast, I am writing on behalf of the Spirit in Nature organization(www.spiritinnature.com) and in support of environmental education legislation. Founded in 1998, the Spirit in Nature (SPiN) hiking paths rest in the foothills of Vermont's Green Mountain National Forest. The paths provide visitors with a haven of natural beauty and diverse spiritual insight.

Most importantly, Spirit in Nature is dedicated to environmental education, and organizes several educational programs in addition to maintaining the paths. To quote SPiN's mission statement, "The focal point of SPiN's mission is to educate the community about the environment through the vehicle of traditional religions."

Organizations like Spirit in Nature provide crucial environmental education resources for Vermonters. However, their work alone cannot guarantee equal environmental education benefits for all Vermont citizens. Last year, the state of Minnesota pioneered a law that outlined Minnesota's environmental education goals and plans. This law ensues that all Minnesota citizens receive fundamental understanding of ecological systems and environmental issues.

The Minnesota statute calls for the construction of several environmental resource centers to ensure that, "Pupils and citizens shall have access to information and experiences needed to make informed decisions about actions to take on environmental issues." Using Minnesota's plan as a model, Vermont must pass legislation concerning the funding and implementation of environmental education programs for adults and children.

U.S. Senators Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.) and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) hold both education and the environment among their top priorities. Please contact Sens. Jeffords and Leahy to thank them for their concern about the environment. Encourage them to initiate and support legislation promoting the advancement of environmental education in Vermont.

Only the combined efforts of organizations like Spirit in Nature in conjunction with statewide environmental education programs can ensure that all Vermonters have equal opportunities to participate in environmental education.

If you are interested in signing a specific letter advocating environmental education in Vermont, there will be a letter signing day at the Spirit in Nature trail on May 3, 2003 at 12:00 p.m. Directions to get to the trails from Route 7 are to take 125 East and then turn right on Goshen Road.

Leah Koenig is an environmental studies major from Chicago, Ill.

A Continuing Debate

Porn Also Raises Concerns for Men

- Alex Rossmiller '04 -

In his April 16 article, "Dines' Message Alienates Rather Than Convinces Audience," Bryan Goldberg '05 demonstrated what is either total ignorance of the point of Gail Dines' lecture, or worse, purposeful distortion of the facts and its message. The contrast between the informed clarity of "Porn Perpetuates Sexual Violence" by Gillian Wood '03 and Goldberg's calamity of misinformation was stunning and should be addressed.

Goldberg claimed that Dines used "problematic rhetoric" that "alienated many of the people she was trying to convince." Her lecture may have alienated a few, but I observed an audience that was primarily engaged.

Goldberg tried to dismiss the entire lecture because "images of this nature have been relatively widespread for nearly a century, meaning that her presentation did not touch upon anything new." Surely Goldberg is not suggesting that the mere prolonged existence of something validates its appropriateness. The idea that a problem must be new in order to be addressed is horrifically illogical.

Goldberg furthered his assault on rationality when he scoffed at the images presented, suggesting, "Dines' ability to locate two dozen photos hardly qualifies her as a sleuth." One of the most important points of the lecture was that such images are omnipresent, and one need not be a detective to find them. Dines simply took mainstream images of sex intertwined with violence and put them in the context of the increasing sexual violence in society.

Pornographic images ... play on an inversion of the clear superiority of males in many sexual relationships, and it is a ridiculous argument to say that S & M pornography represents a victory against sexual violence and the objectification of women.

She certainly did not, as Goldberg asserts, condemn sexuality, and for Goldberg to euphemize pornography as "alternative forms of erotica" is simply laughable.

If Goldberg wants to pretend that a Hustler photograph of a naked woman hanging from a tree is an "alternative form of erotica," that is his business, but such a view lacks basic reason and should not be foist upon readers as anything approaching reality.

Goldberg introduced bondage and sadomasochism, an issue over which he and Dines shared marked conflict during the lecture. Contrary to Goldberg's assertion, bondage and sadomasochism are male fantasies, and male sexual subservience is just that: a fantasy. Pornographic images of these behaviors play on an inversion of the clear superiority of males in many or most sexual relationships, and it is a ridiculous argument to say that S&M pornography represents a victory against violence and the objectification of women.

I found the Dines' lecture to be poignant and disquieting. I did not agree with the entire presentation, and I do feel that Dines may have hurt her own cause by making strong anti-capitalist statements within the context of addressing pornography. But while I do not endorse the entire lecture, neither do I condone obfuscation of its facts. It would be a grave mistake to dismiss the very real and valid points that she made just because one does not agree with all her statements or perspectives.

Finally, I wanted to write about this issue in part because there were three articles about it in last week's *Campus*, and the two written by women, Wood and Chelsea Coffin '05, were generally balanced and accurately representative of the lecture, while Goldberg's piece, in my view, was neither. I hope that no one gets the impression that this is an issue that divides men and women. Rather, it is one that should unite the sexes.

No man wants to think of sexualized violence (or violence-ualized sex) with regards to our own sisters or daughters, but the statistics are stark. If there are things that I, as a man, can do to change that situation, I want to know about it, so I appreciate Dines' efforts to combat violence and objectification, despite our differences.

Alex Rossmiller is a political science/psychology double major from Harrison, N.Y.

Middle Ground

-Fahim Ahmed '03-

"We come to liberate Baghdad, not to occupy it." — Lt. Gen. Sir Stanley Maude on March 19, 1917.

The date attributed to the above quote may take many readers by surprise. Others may appreciate the sense of irony, for history has that uncanny ability of repeating itself. The last time in history Iraq was "liberated," it was to remain under the direct rule of the British Empire for the next 15 years, until its eventual independence and accession to the League of Nations in 1932.

The most recent "liberatio"' of Iraq, in Operation Iraqi Freedom, may not lead to a direct rule by its occupying forces for the next 15 years. Yet the Bush administration remains determined to maintain its influence in the country and the region for the long term to advance its economic, geostrategic, diplomatic and security interests.

Since the fall of Baghdad, the United States has maintained its hardline position of denying the United Nations a leading role in the reconstruction efforts. The occupation and reconstruction of Iraq, undoubtedly, now constitutes Bush's diplomatic trump card.

In pushing for the lifting of U.N. sanctions, the Bush administration has intimated that the world body must first recognize the new Iraqi authority, currently the Office of Iraqi Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance headed by retired Gen. Jay Garner, thus providing an ex-post-facto legitimization of the invasion of Iraq. And that recognition notwithstanding, the United States is unwilling to share any of its "spoils" with its detractors.

The nomination of Garner to head a "civilian" administration in Iraq has led to renewed criticism of the length and nature of the interim authority. While the U.S.-led administration is charged with the task of coordinating immediate reconstruction efforts and humanitarian aid until an interim government led and constituted by Iraqi citizens takes charge, the length of the transition period has been a subject of intense speculation.

Describing the White House strategy and Garner's efforts as "ill-prepared" in a recent interview on NBC's *Meet the Press*, Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, estimated that democracy in Iraq is "at least five years away." Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.), sponsor of the Senate resolution last fall that authorized President Bush to launch military action on Iraq, has also been forthcoming with his criticism of the limited progress made on the reconstruction front. The designation of former U.S. administrators — including James Woolsey, former director of the CIA, — known for their right-wing views on foreign policy have only served to further these criticisms.

Secondly, the Defense Department's predisposition to Ahmed Chalabi's Iraqi National Congress (INC) not only questions the U.S. commitment to democracy in Iraq, but has also created schisms within the Bush administration. Although Chalabi enjoys little popular support in Iraq — a country from which he had emigrated as a teenager in 1958 — he has thus far used the tacit endorsement by his U.S. benefactors to build a political base.

Chalabi has had a checkered past. Perceived as a westernized, pro-U.S. Arab elite, Chalabi used the connections he developed while a lobbyist in Washington to receive a significant share of $100 million in assistance from the United States in 1998. A fraction of the money was actually spent on its intended purpose — on developing anti-Saddam opposition infrastructure, which led to a State Department investigation of the INC's accounting practices.

Accused of bank fraud in 1992, Chalabi was sentenced in absentia to a prison term of 22 years by a Jordanian court. Should Chalabi emerge as the leader of the Iraqi interim authority, he would be uniquely placed to lobby for a dominant role in Iraqi politics for years to come, thus guaranteeing the United States a "friendly" administration in Iraq.

Thirdly, early reports have emerged from administration sources indicating that the United States is currently considering building up to four military bases in Iraqi territory to protect its long-term security interests in the region. While the actual blueprint of U.S. military presence in Iraq is yet to be determined, it appears that in the aftermath of Iraqi Freedom, there would not be demilitarization of the region.

Even if the Bush administration were sincere in its promise to devolve power to a government constituted by Iraqi citizens on the civilian front, it continues to demonstrate its unwillingness to relinquish its military foothold in the region.

There has been intense speculation that Iraq may be "encouraged" by the United States to leave the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, thus assuring the supply and stability of oil prices and volumes in the global commodities market. And to achieve this end, the United States must maintain a significant influence on the Iraqi government.

These developments point to a lasting U.S. presence in Iraq. And as in 1917, democracy, self-determination and economic freedom may continue to elude the Iraqi people.

UVM Summer University

The Many Shades of Learning

Courses On-Line

Courses on Campus

Courses Around Vermont

Travel and Field Courses

Check out UVM Summer University's New Two-Week Intensives: 'Business Savvy' and 'Traditional Chinese Medicine'

Visit learn.uvm.edu and click on Summer University. Registration now open. Classes begin in May. 800-639-3210 or 802-656-2085

Registration Now Open

learn.uvm.edu

The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT SUMMER UNIVERSITY

Holt's Harangue

By Christian Holt
Staff Writer

I think my bank loves me a little too much. I have a summer's work worth of savings at the local branch, and they treat me like I own a friggin' mint.

When I deposit money, the receptionist is nice, which I guess is typical. But she's smiling a whole lot more than she should, like this is actually exciting to her. She keeps on sweating and giggling nervously. I haven't felt that in control since I went car shopping — the salesmen were putty in my hands.

Well, I sit down with the bank representative, and I swear that while I'm in the meeting, the other bankers are staring over the side of the cubicle. When I turn my head, they duck and act like they aren't watching. And when I leave the place, deposit slip in hand, is it normal to hear Kool and the Gang's "Celebration" and party noisemakers?

They must really like my business, I think, as I receive the third letter of the week from the bank. It not only notifies me that my slender sum of money has grown by .003 percent, but it is also a personal letter of interest. They tell me they "really enjoy my business..." and "value me as a person." I don't know about you, but it seems odd for them to start every letter with "Dear Beloved One..."

Now that I think about it, I'm betting there is something fishy going down in that establishment. I'm talking, of course, about the National Bank of Middlebury. I never understood that. How could a bank be National and have only two locations, both located within ten miles of the town? Is Middlebury considered a nation? Is my money now the sole contribution to this nation's treasury? Wouldn't that be an odd thought: Middlebury as a nation, its only imports being cocky preppy kids and only exports being cockier preppy kids.

Does your bank remember your birthday? My best friends don't even remember my birthday. To them, they may think, "Hey, he hasn't had a birthday for more than a year." But nothing dawns on them. These bank folks send me a card, a cake and a bag of confetti. The only thing they don't send me is a savings bond. My grandmother does that, which I promptly deposit in the bank ... and they then send me a card thanking me for my deposit and further wish me a happy birthday.

But maybe I'm overreacting — maybe most banks do this. I mean Mastercard airs all those ads about "priceless" moments.

(see The Power, page 19)

Steven Pinker Discusses the Power of Language

By Grace Armstrong
Staff Writer

On Wed., April 16, members of the College community filled Dana Auditorium to hear author and Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor Steven Pinker speak on "Language Acquisition." Pinker is the author of several books, including "The Language Instinct," which *Scientific American* honored as one of the "100 Best Science Books of the Century." For his work, *Newsweek* named Pinker to its list of "100 Americans for the Next Century," and his speech attracted an audience with interests in everything from linguistics to biology and neuroscience.

Pinker began his talk by having his audience reflect on how often the nature of language is taken for granted. "Language comes so naturally to us that it's easy for us to forget what a miraculous gift it is," he said. "Right now, I have coded ideas into this precise sequence of hisses, squeaks, and pops... somehow, your brain has the ability to decode these noises."

And not only decode them, but form them into complicated, abstract ideas. According to Pinker, there are two aspects to our ability to communicate through "arbitrary" sounds. The first is the memorized word, which stands as a symbol for the actual thing or idea, and the second is grammar.

"The word 'duck' doesn't look, talk or quack like a duck, but it gets you to think of a duck," Pinker said. Of course, he pointed out, "This system only works if everyone has memorized the same words." Knowing a word that no one else knows is pointless.

Pinker also noted that memorized words can only communicate predetermined concepts. This is the reason for combinatorial grammar, the second "trick" of communication.

Grammar provides rules to arrange old words to form new concepts. Pinker, however, said, a system of communication based entirely on rules would have disadvantages, too. This is why "we have words for common activities and grammatical entities for novel concepts."

Next, Pinker spoke on regular and irregular words. This is an area that fascinates linguists, but Pinker managed to explain his subject in a way that even the uninitiated could follow.

"There are only 165 irregular verbs in the English language, and no new ones have been added in the last 100 years," Pinker said. He explained several different theories about why verbs become irregular or regular, but held that the basic rules of memorization and symbol combination (grammar) apply here as well: regular verbs are created using a rule, while irregular verbs are memorized. He cautioned, though, that there was more to the concept.

"As an experimental psychologist, I'm not supposed to believe anything until it's been tested on rats or sophomores," Pinker said. Based on his research, he proposed a modified form of the "words and rules" theory. Basically, he said, each form of an irregular verb is memorized as a separate word, but the memory is partly associative. And people will apply regular patterns when their memory fails.

Pinker pointed out that in English, the 10 verbs that appear most often — including be, have, do, say, make and go — are all irregular. The same is true in many languages. What is the connection between irregularity and frequency of use? To answer that, Pinker described how irregulars are created.

> Language comes so naturally to us that it's easy for us to forget what a miraculous gift it is.
>
> —Steven Pinker

"Irregular forms are fossils of dead rules, rules that once operated but were too hard to memorize," Pinker said. He explained that when the rules get too messy, verbs are memorized as irregular.

Because irregular words are memorized, they can be forgotten. In general, speakers default to regular forms if their memory fails them. This explains why there are so few irregular verbs in the English language. "Over the centuries, common words stayed irregular, and rare ones switched to regular," Pinker stated. If they are used at all, the less frequent irregulars begin to sound strange.

Pinker kept the audience's attention by pointing out a few of the odd word forms in the English language. He had plenty of examples, from slang terms (Why do certain phrases sound so strange in past tense?), to brand names ("Ever since Sony invented the Walkman, people have been unsure of what to call more than one,") to nouns that have become verbs.

With each of these examples, Pinker aimed to prove one of his points. And although the explanation became technical at times, the audience was able to share his fascination with the topic. At the root of his study of words, Pinker said, is "a general interest in how the mind works."

"The same rules that allow us to say that a dog bit a man also allow us to say that the Big Bang created the universe," Pinker said. "This is what I think of as the miracle of language: its vast expressive power."

Pinker's lecture was sponsored by the foreign language division and the C.V. Starr Foundation and co-sponsored by the Psychology Department, the Psychology Club, the Teacher Education Program, the Neuroscience Program and Cook Commons.

Budding Spring

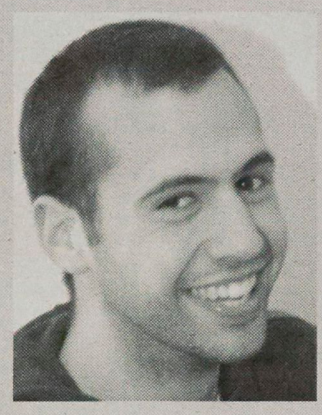
Vlad Lodoaba

As the age-old saying goes, *"April showers bring May flowers," as long as the temperature doesn't drop again.*

CAMPUS VOICES

What Would an SGA Presidential Candidate Have to Do for Your Vote?

Compiled by Matt Christ **Photos by Schuyler Van Horn**

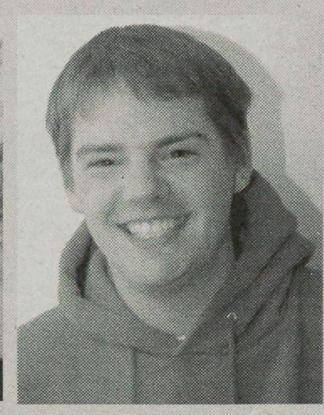


"Give me a Hummer."

—Adam Sinoway '05

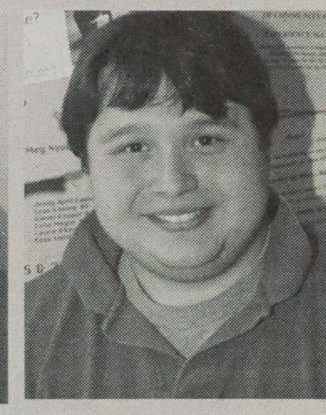
"Throw me some Vicodin."

—Samir Ahmed '04



"Guarantee good senior housing on campus."

—Boomer Gaston '05



"Be me."

—Sam Rodriguez '04

Alumna Illuminates Life of Man Who Conquered Everest

By David Barker
Staff Writer

The ascent was only the beginning. On May 29, 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay became the first humans to conquer Mt. Everest. The surrounding Himalayan region dug like an ice ax into Hillary, and its hold would bring him back to Nepal soon after the headlines detailing his accomplishment faded. Little is known about Hillary after the sword of England's Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed the New Zealander a knight following the triumph of the British expedition.

Last Tuesday, Hillary's history became clearer after former National Geographic photographer Anne Keiser, Middlebury College Class of 1970, discussed Hillary's feat in conjunction with the release of her new book, "Sir Edmund Hillary and the People of Everest." Organized by Joy Bloser '06 and sponsored by the Middlebury Mountain Club (MMC), Keiser's speech and slide presentation focused on Hillary's humanitarian aid work in several "Sherpa" Villages in Nepal.

Keiser's path collided with Hillary's in 1983 through her work on a National Geographic film that celebrated the 30th anniversary of the successful summit attempt. She quickly became fascinated with Hillary's quiet devotion to the Sherpa people and served him well when he returned. The Himalayan Trust's first project began in Khumjung, where according to Keiser, Hillary asked the Sherpas what they needed most. If they needed a school, Hillary would respond, "Together, we shall build a school."

> I came here for the mountains and I stay for the people.
>
> —Edmund Hillary to National Geographic Photographer Anne Keiser '70

accompanied him on several of his trips.

In the first years following his ascent of Everest, Hillary returned to the region to scale other Himalayan peaks and conduct research on the effects of altitude on the human body, but his lingering presence in the area stemmed from a different motivation.

"I came here for the mountains and I stay for the people," Hillary said to Keiser.

In 1961, Hillary founded the Himalayan Trust, a grassroots organization that focused on improvements such as education and health services in remote Sherpa communities. Without roads or electricity, the Sherpa's existence centered around growing potatoes and raising yaks. On the 1953 expedition, 36 Sherpas accompanied the 13 mountaineers. Having lived in the shadow of the Himalayas since the 16th century, the Sherpas physical aplomb in high-altitude environments made them valuable climbing partners for the British team.

Relationships that Hillary built while scaling the Himalayas

Julia Randall

Last Tuesday in Dana Auditorium, former National Geographic photographer Anne Keiser '70 (right) talked about her encounter with Edmund Hillary

"Having the Sherpas identify their own needs has kept them engaged in their community and endowed them with the will to take responsibility for their needs," Keiser said. Over the years, the Sherpas have completed 27 schools and two hospitals. Their salaries are covered by the Trust. While the construction process was collaborative, the doctors and teachers are trained Sherpas.

Keiser's slides highlighted some of the success stories that have arisen from Hillary's aid to the Sherpa communities. He brought together New Zealand foresters and Nepalese ecologists to establish Sagamartha National Park in order to control the negative effects of tourism on the wilderness surrounding Mount Everest. One of the Sherpas to graduate from the first Khomjung School is now a World Wildlife Fund Director for Asia and the Pacific and has contributed to the reforestation of areas in Sagamartha and around the village. Another Sherpa who is a commercial airlines pilot in Germany became interested in flying after watching supply planes enter and leave the village via the airstrip that Hillary helped build in Khomjung. Both Sherpas received college scholarships from the Trust.

Western influences seen in tourism and the popularity of Everest have produced visible changes in the villages and landscape. Hillary and Norgay's successful expedition has been followed by over 1200 other climbers. The impact of ecotourism has led to the outlawing of wood fires. Sherpa diets based on potatoes have been infiltrated by tooth-rotting soft drinks. Electricity in the villages has brought in computers and cyber cafes. Recently, tourism has dropped 80 percent because of Maoist insurgency in the area.

At age 83, Hillary's role in the area is becoming more limited. The Trust is focusing more on

(see Keiser, page 19)

Lives of Female Prisoners Unlocked

By Alison Damick
Staff Writer

On Monday, Dana Auditorium was abuzz as students filed in, laughing and shaking the spring rainfall out of their hair and off of their jackets. The screening scheduled that night was, "Five Short Films on Women and Prison," with an introduction before and discussion after by producer Alexandra Juhasz, associate professor of media history and theory, Video Production/post-production and Women's Studies at Pitzer College. The general ease in the room, the carefree lounging and laughing and simple chatter that filled the room in the minutes before the screening began were a stark and telling contrast to the lives of the women about to be viewed. Nor was the poignancy lost on the audience — when the lights came up after the film, the silence and perhaps confusion, in the air was palpable.

Juhasz, self-described "activist video-maker," was a soft-spoken woman, at ease with her subject on an academic and artistic level. She said very little to introduce her film, describing briefly how she contacted five of her former students and/or colleagues, who then contacted their colleagues and eventually came up with a team of 15 people who created five short (approximately three-five minute) films about their visions on women's prison rights. She said, "I use television to make anti-television. I tap into its power, but I use it in different ways."

She offered a few cautionary words regarding the viewing of her film: "Be equally as engaged in the poetic, artistic collaborative project as with the content ... Think about why this doesn't look like normal documentaries and how we wanted to communicate this issue to you ... and how we didn't want to communicate it." She then took her seat, allowing the film to speak primarily for itself.

And speak it did, at times loudly, at times softly and in many languages that were not always easy to translate. The first segment of the film was titled "A Gram o' Pussy," by Scarlot Harlot, and detailed the representation of Duran Ruiz by a 20/20 show featuring her and her connection to drugs and prostitution, in addition to her experiences since being released from prison for those same offenses. Ruiz was loud, articulate and very frank about her anger with a system that she believes not only does not work, but also does not leave options for women after they are released from prison, except the same conditions that led to their incarceration. She also attacks the way the media portrayed her and continues to portray women in her position, a misrepresentation that she finds offensive, inaccurate, and dangerous.

Next was "Sheltered" by Enid Baxter Blader. This film explored the effects of the cycle of continuously recurring incarceration when there is nowhere safe to go after release, using the case study of a childhood friend from a seemingly safe and innocent background.

After this came "Unyielding Conditioning" by Sylvain White and Tamika Miller, an interview/candid observation study of former woman inmates that sketched portraits of the women behind the sentences.

The fourth segment of the film was the only animated segment, the only segment with no speech and the only segment wherein the inside of a prison was actually depicted. By animator Joseph Saito and titled "Breathe," Juhasz described this film as "the break a regular documentary doesn't give you in the flow of information," a "space to think" and reflect on what you are seeing.

"Breathe" was followed by the final segment, a piece by Irwin Swirnoff and Cheryl Dunye titled "Making the Invisible Invincible: A Look at Cheryl Dunye's 'Stranger Inside,'" creating a diary-like portrayal of her experi-

(see Juhasz, page 19)

MONELLE
clothing and accessories for fabulous living...

20% OFF
with this ad

ALL Lilly PULITZER

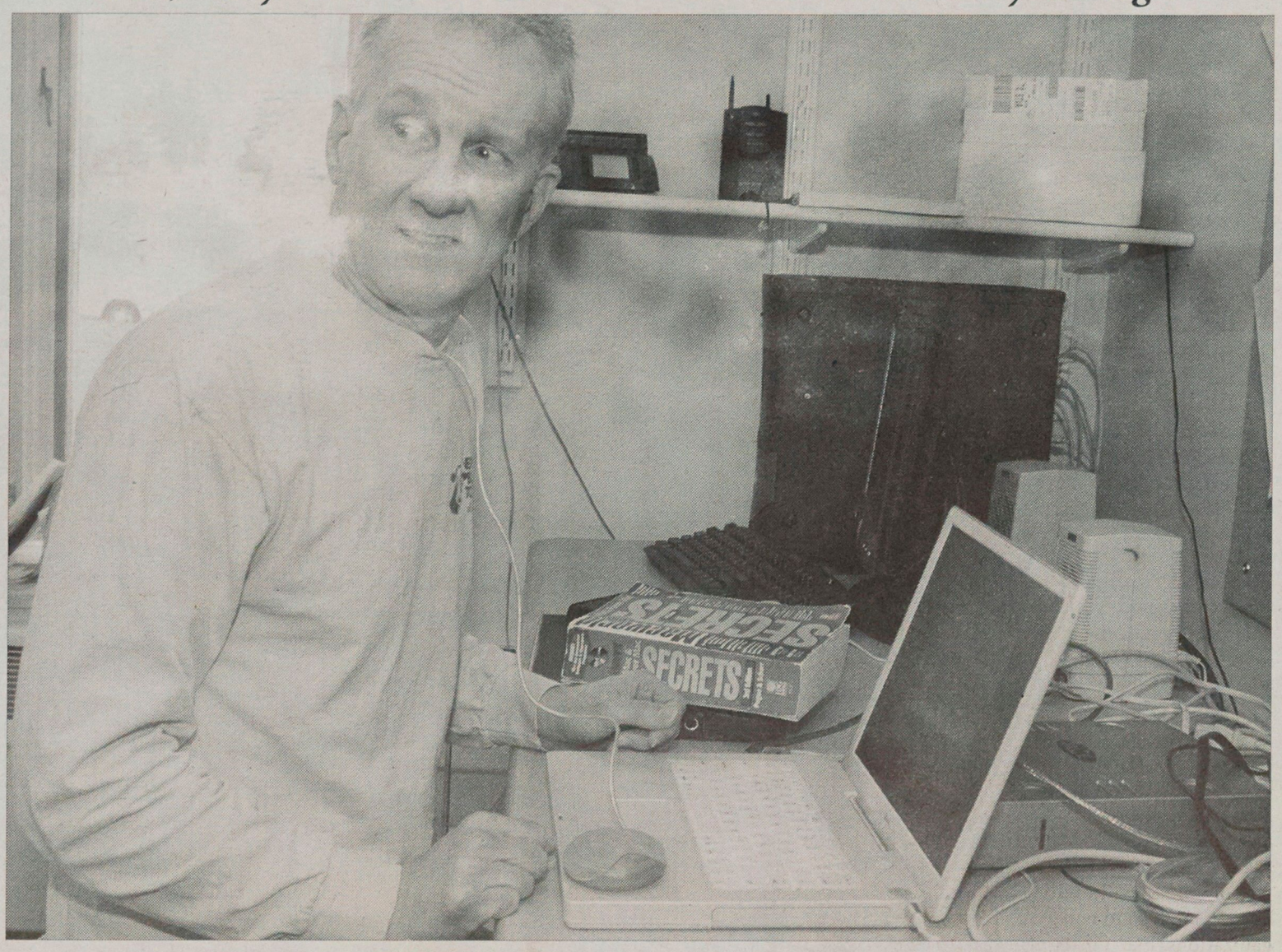
New for Spring:
Juicy Cotoure
Blue Cult Jeans
(Come in and try on the "Butt Lifter" or the "Gwenith.")
Vix Swimwear
Buzz by Jane Fox
Herve Chapellier

186 1/2 church street. burlington. vt 05401
(802) 657-4074
returns for store credit only. within 7 days
items purchased on sale are final

The Macintosh: Love It or Hate It, It's Here to Stay

With Sleek New Look, 'Sexy' Machines Establish Niche at Middlebury College

By Claire Bourne
Acting Managing Editor



Vlad Lodoaba

Computing Support Specialist Mack Roark made the switch from PCs to Macs in the early nineties and is now a die-hard Mac fan.

Last August, I fell in love.

This wasn't a passing crush. No, this was the real thing.

It all began one Sunday morning, a few days before I was due to depart for my long-anticipated semester in Paris. I was scouring the Short Hills Mall for some last-minute items, my head aching from the high-pitched squeal of the fluorescent lights that retailers insist on installing in their establishments, when a calming, translucent glow caught the corner of my eye. I suppose you could say that I had seen the light.

I turned and walked over the bleached wooden floor and past the well-groomed, black-clad salespeople. There, in the middle of the modish, spacious Apple store, I beheld Macintosh's sleek titanium PowerBook for the first time.

Yes, I had seen the television advertisements. And yes, they were successfully convincing me that I didn't need "the blue screen of death" in my life anymore. So, with my two-and-a-half-year-old Sony Viao on its deathbed, I decided to take the plunge and welcome a Mac into my world.

I was not alone. Although the number of Middlebury College students who own Macintosh computers has remained steady over the past few years, the dynamic image of Apple's new models has made them stand out in the sea of generic-looking PC's. Between 13 to 15 percent of the student body uses Macs, while over 100 faculty members own Apples.

Those who have been loyal Apple fans for the majority of their computer-using days say they would never switch to Windows-operated machines. Those who have listened to CEO of Apple Steve Jobs and company's advice and taken "the leap of faith" are equally convinced of Macs' virtues.

College Computing Support Specialist Mack Roark is a self-proclaimed convert. He used PC's throughout the 80s but began working on Macs in the early 90s when he attended graphic art school. Before this turning point, he says he thought Macs were "toys."

The newest line of Apple computers boasts Mac OS X (pronounced oh-ess-ten), an operating system that "makes previous consumer systems, like Mac OS 9 and Windows Me, look like hand-cranked antiques," according to New York Times reporter David Pogue. The difference between Apple's 17-year-old OS 9 system and the newer, user-friendly system is, simply put, Unix — an wholly dependable operating system that renders the latest Macs virtually crashproof.

Veiling the hard-to-use Unix system was all part of the plan. Instead of being confronted with a complicated interface (Pogue described using it as "about as much fun as eating sand"), clients are instead pleasantly greeted with a richly lucid, gently animated and accessible software overlay.

Macs boast "something for everyone," according to Roark. "Computers are as individual as the people that use them," and Mac users, he maintains, "tend to be more loyal to their computers" and "see them as more than just tools to access things."

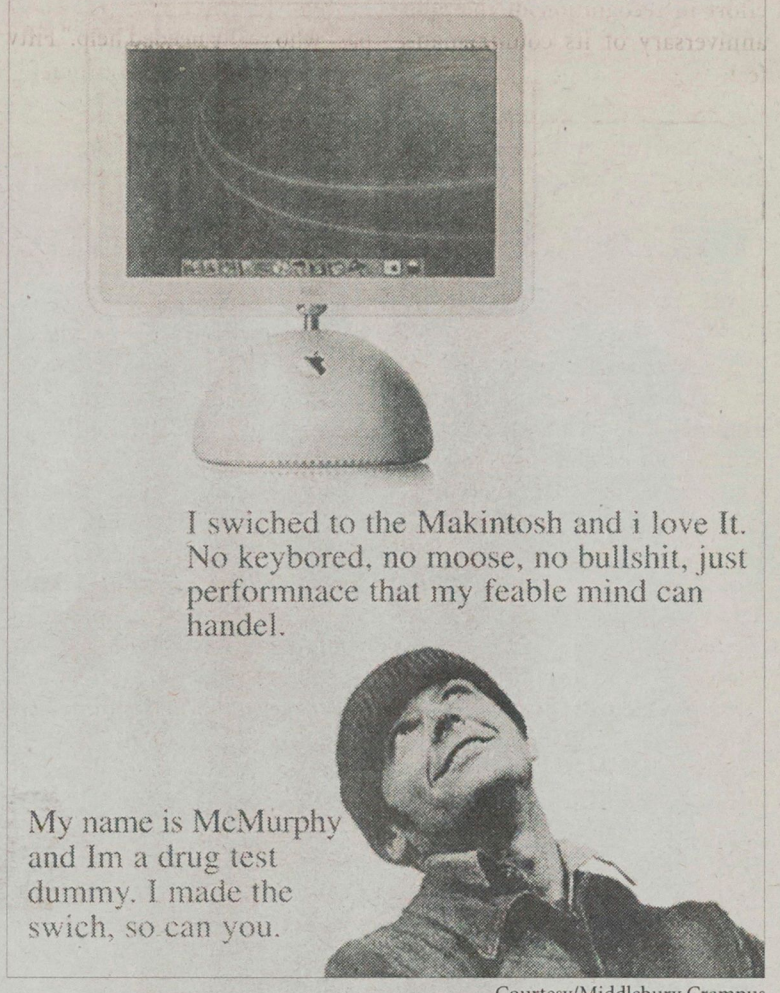
Computer science major Christopher Shubert '05 cites his PowerMac's reliability and power as reasons for sticking with the Apple brand ever since he began using computers. "It's more comfortable," he says.

Despite new Macs' modernized features — protected memory and multitasking, among them — some PC users will never consider replacing their IBM-compatible machines with Apples. Crampus Editor Gregory Eriksen '04 says there is "no way" he would ever switch. When he stepped up to the humor magazine's top post, he was upset to learn that The Middlebury Campus, whose office The Crampus uses to produce its publication, had recently acquired a number of new PowerMac G4s. Although the machines have been "a source of major frustration," Eriksen admits that he is getting better at navigating the machines' idiosyncrasies. "We're on a speaking basis," he affirms.

Eriksen took his opinion of Apple's recent advertising campaign all the way to the pages of The Crampus' latest issue, a spoof on Time Magazine entitled Slime. The one-page ad parody depicts McMurphy, the mischievous protagonist of the film adaptation of Ken Kesey's "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," as one of the "everyday people" Apple employed to describe to the television-watching world the merits of crossing over from PC's to Macs. "The ads were basically saying that you had to be really dumb not to be able to use a PC," Eriksen explains, "but Macs are a pain to use in their own right."

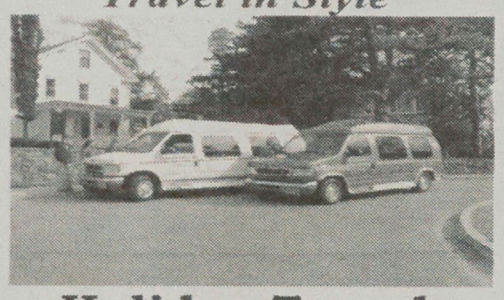
Despite the existing "cold war" — Eriksen's tongue-in-cheek description of the conflict between Mac and PC users — few can dispute the aesthetic appeal of the chic titanium PowerBooks, the compact white iMacs and the curvaceous PowerMacs. "They look sexy," says Roark. "When the titanium model came out, people went nuts." There is just something undeniably satisfying about owning a "snazzy, cool, hot-looking" laptop (to borrow Roark's terminology).

I will confess that I judged the book by its cover on that fateful day in late August. But I am generally a good judge of character and I don't plan of falling out of love any time soon.


I swiched to the Makintosh and i love It. No keybored, no moose, no bullshit, just performnace that my feable mind can handel.
My name is McMurphy and Im a drug test dummy. I made the swich, so can you.

Courtesy/Middlebury Crampus

The Middlebury Crampus *parodied last year's series of Mac ads in its most recent edition, published earlier this spring.*

MT
MIDDLEBURY TRANSIT
Personalized Regional Transportation
Travel in Style

Holiday Travel
Airport – Amtrak Station
Transportation
Call for Rates and Reservations
388-3838
800-388-1002
www.middleburytransit.com

Juhasz Shows Five Films

(continued from page 16)

ences directing her own film about a mother and daughter who meet in prison. It was everything you'd never expect from a conventional documentary. It was not straightforward, it didn't provide clarity or give direct facts and it certainly didn't have any discernable flow or congruity. And that, she told an inquiring audience afterwards, was exactly as intended. Most documentaries are made to reveal specific information about a subject, about bringing the intellectual distance between subject matter and audience closer. "This documentary is about affirming distance," Juhasz said. "It says you can't have this information — it's private, it's traumatic, it's mine."

Discussion after the screening revolved primarily around the format of the films and its effectiveness, and while happy to help clarify certain aspects of the film, Juhasz seemed reluctant to put words into the subjects' mouths that weren't there in the film. "How do you portray something you've never experienced?" Juhasz returned to the audience, "Something that you know is wrong, that you'd like to change, but that you've never participated in? It's an important question for any socially progressive person." She explained that the film was meant to give these women, some of the women most rarely heard from in popular media, a chance to portray themselves and their experiences. "To have self-control and to choose which images of you are portrayed and how is a very great power few of us have and certainly most of these women rarely have," Juhasz asserted. She summed up the overall message of the film as, "These women are neither as you perhaps imagined them nor voiceless," and that "as long as we have a society that thinks the right idea is to punish, then the idea of a place that's more of a social service after prison will be hard to initiate."

Springtime BBQ

Vlad Lodoaba

Seizing the opportunity to enjoy the weather outdoors, *Eric Blacher '05 serves up BBQ fare to Lang Hall residents on Sunday.*

Keiser Relives Everest

(continued from page 17)

transferring responsibilities to the Sherpas in order to continue a strong influx of aid into the Sherpa communities. Royalties from Keiser's book go to non-profit organizations like the Himalayan Trust. New Zealand is also making a substantial donation to the aid effort in recognition of the 50th anniversary of its countryman's feat.

After having written three books on Hillary, Keiser's admiration of the modest and determined mountaineer who as a child was too small to play sports remains strong. "While so many people that become famous and globally known use their fame for personal gain, Hillary chose to use his fame to help others [the Sherpas] who really needed help." Fifty years later, the ascent continues.

The Power of Money in a Small Town Bank

(continued from page 16)

Maybe they make some of those moments come true for their customers or something. I guess in this shabby economy, banks feel compelled to go the extra mile. "The bank that's more than a bank, we're also your friends... really. We're your friends, chums, amigos. Why have you stopped calling us?"

I don't want my bank to be my friend. My friends usually borrow money and then don't give it back. Then I'm forced to break their knees until they reimburse me. I don't want to have to do that to the nice folks at the bank. That, and I am afraid of the security guards. (They have clubs.)

Anyway, I think I'm going to withdraw my money, and do what my Scottish and Norwegian ancestors did: bury it. That's right, I come from a long line of marauding hooligans — we pillage and plunder and then bury our treasure. So if you see me on McCullough lawn with a shovel, pretend you saw nothing.

also

coming soon to Campus newsstands...

RIDDIM Rolls Out the Red Carpet

By Caroline Stauffer
Features Editor

Friday, April 18, 9:30 p.m. McCullough Social Space erupted into a scene of mass chaos as approximately 300 Middlebury students anxiously awaited the opportunity to see the second performance of Riddim World Dance Troupe's "Riddim: Behind the Moves."

"I promise I had tickets... I signed my name on the list!" several students begged at the door, anxious to be allowed in to see the show.

A limited amount of free tickets were distributed at Proctor and Ross dining halls on Monday and Tuesday, and every seat in McCullough was filled with students standing in the back at both the 7:00 and 9:30 shows Friday night.

This performance marked the introduction of two performances in one night for the troupe. "[This was] an idea we had always entertained but never attempted until this spring," Club Director Alice Quist, '03 said.

"I was extremely glad that we managed to fill two full houses, it makes all our hard work worth it," Edlyn Chao, '03 said. "We really love to give the crowd a good time."

The packed audience created an appropriate atmosphere for the troupe's entrance via a red carpet leading onto the stage.

The show continued with a novel structure. 'Behind the scenes,' video clips of Riddim members spaced out the world dance troop's performances, creating "a show within a show."

"This spring's show: 'Behind the Moves: RIDDIM' is definitely our most 'produced,'" Overall Riddim Director, Janine Knight, '03 said. "It gives us time to change while entertaining the crowd in an interesting and (to me) hilarious way!"

"Earlier in the week, we were a bit concerned about whether we would have enough time to change between the video clips," Quist said, "but we seemed to have pulled it off with help from Elizabeth Schaumberg, '06."

In preparation for the video, Riddim spent many hours and days taping and editing to capture "the perfect clips," according to Knight.

Knight, along with Quist and Heather Collamore, '04, worked with the Middlebury Community television studios to ensure the best quality film possible.

While many of the clips were spoofs, such as "Midd Cribs," "Flashdancer" and "Real World," they still provided the audience with a chance to become better acquainted with the Riddim troop.

"They [the audience] will also realize that we strive for professionalism and rehearse diligently to produce the choreographer's vision," Knight said.

Besides boasting the addition of the film clips, this spring's performance is more technical than past Riddim productions, according to Knight, with numerous technical staff members working to ensure a smoothly running show. Courtney Hess, '03 served as technical director of the show and designed the lighting as Light Board Operator. Brittney Dunn-Komeh, '05 served as Stage Manager, Juliana Grand, '03 as Projector Operator, Schaumberg as Costume Designer and Daryn Cambridge, '03 as Sound Board Operator.

Also contrasting with previous performances, the show did not feature Master's of Ceremonies and featured only one guest performance, a humorous piece by the self proclaimed "Riddim Rejects," a feature Quist views as one of the show's highlights. The full performance was also shorter than past shows because there was no intermission.

One aspect that has remained consistent in the past three Spring Riddim shows is that the show is dedicated to the "four Angels," four Riddim members who lost their lives in an accident in the spring of 2000.

The show contained nine dances, and the production truly reflected the Club's multi-cultural purpose. "Hip-Hop Soldiers" featured the original work of slam poet Crystal Belle, '04. The audience was taken around the world with "Tropical Salsarengue," choreographed by Luisa Ivette Peralta '03 and "Tahitian Beats," choreographed by Heather Collamore, '03.5. Music ranged from Gospel to Ghetto.

While Chao admitted that the crowd for the 7:00 show was a little quiet, "the crowd of the second show never hesitated to hoot and holler, that always boosts our adrenaline!" she said.

"We were happy to see McCullough packed for both shows," Quinn said. "We were able to perform twice in one night without any glitches."

"Riddim: Behind the Moves" was the last performance for the seven senior troupe members: Knight, Quist, Chao, Peralta, Jan'l Hastings-Robinson, Peter Koh and Ulises Zanello.

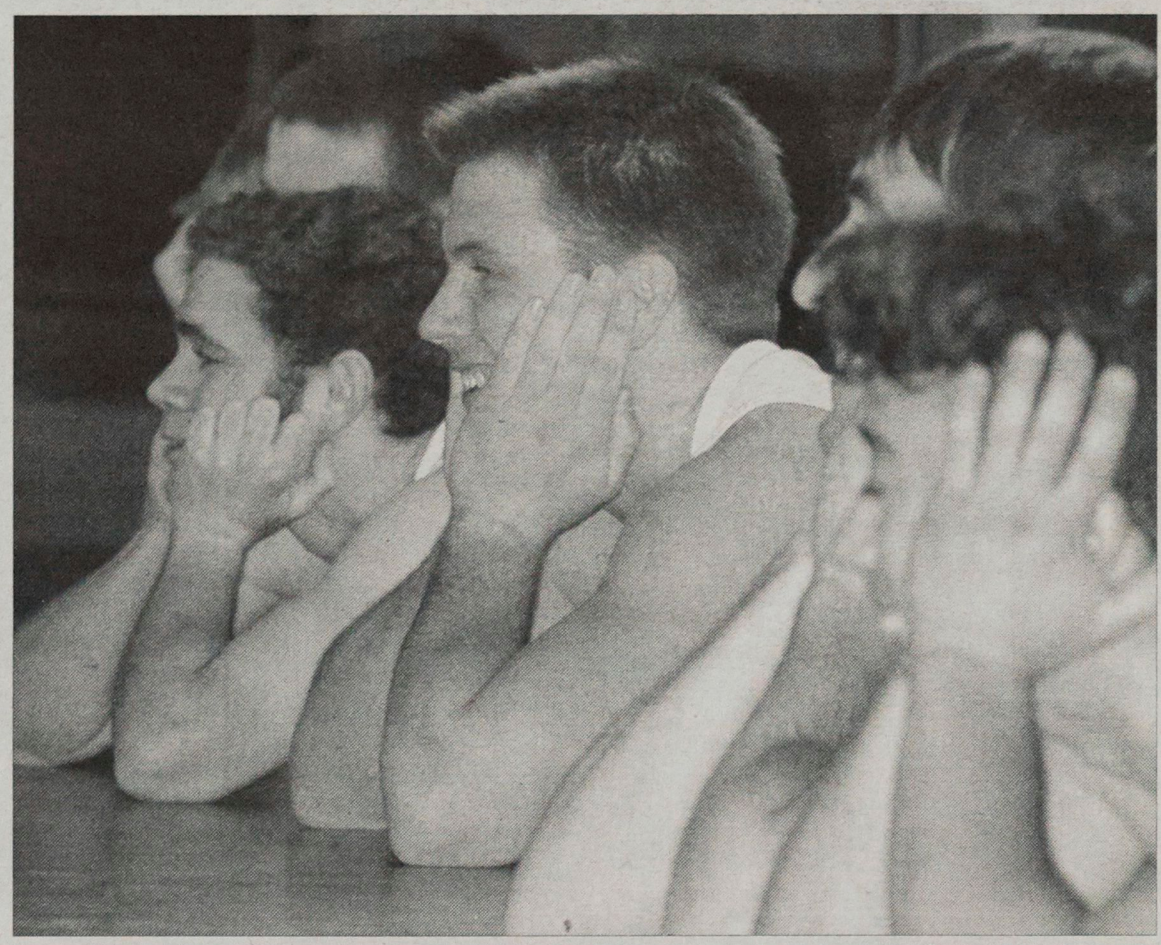
"Being a member of RIDDIM has been one of the most rewarding experiences at Midd because I got to spend time with 23 other people who share the same passion for dance as I do," Quist said.

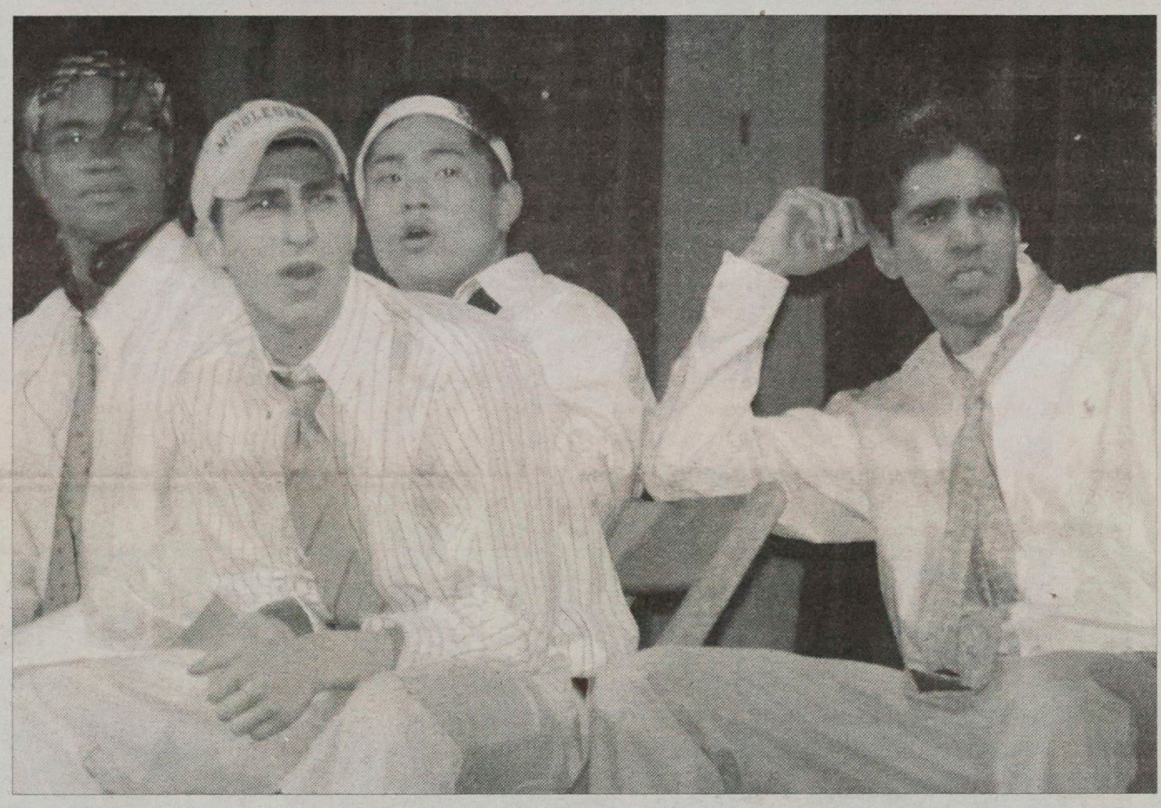
"I love dancing, I love my Riddim family, and I will miss them so much," Chao added.

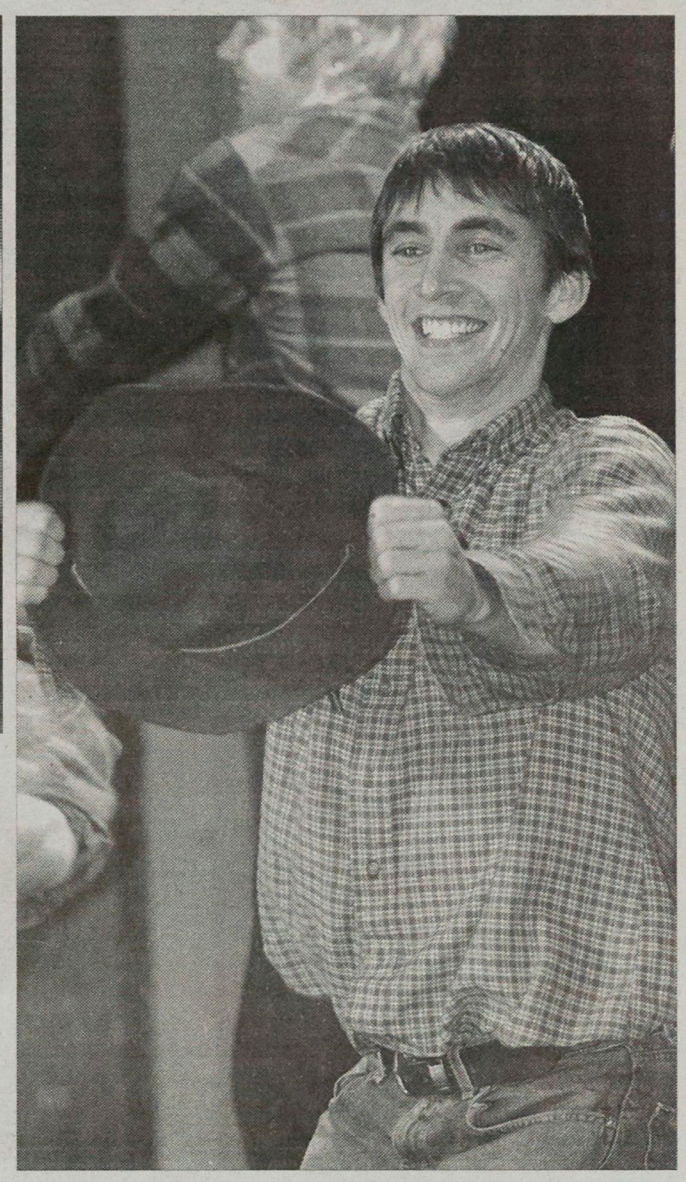
Following the show, a date auction of Riddim members took place with all proceeds going to the Volunteer Services Organization.

"The date auction didn't go as well I would have liked because most people left after the show," Chao said, "but we still raised money for our Angel's scholarship fund as well as Volunteer Service Organization's Hunger project, which is what really matters."

The star-studded night ended with a "Celebrity" after party with DJ Kadion in McCullough.







RIDDIM put on a spectacular show last Friday in McCullough Social Space, selling out two showings well before the event.

Photos by Vlad Lodoaba, Photo Editor

Last Saturday's African American Alliance Fashion Show, "Joining Together in Motown Love," showcased a number of students talents, not to mention hot lingerie and evening gown runway sequences.

Photos by Julia Randall

AAA Fashion Show Flaunts Talent and Skin

By Suzanne R. Mozes
Arts Editor

The African American Alliance (AAA) brought Motown to the Middlebury campus this past Saturday evening in McCullough.

At their spring show, co-sponsored by The Office for Institutional Diversity, PALANA, Women of Color and Middlebury Open Queer Alliance, AAA presented "Joining Together In Motown Love."

The night commenced with an eerie opening act — members of AAA masqueraded upon the stage in solid black wearing white masks. Amidst the ghostly crowd, several members stood out in solid white. Afterwards, emcee President of AAA Kiki Taylor '03 explained that "these colorless masks" represent "the masks that we wear every day."

The performance commenced after a moment of silence for the Four Angels, Anisa Gamble, Tiffany Holmes, Maika Prewitt and Iniko Johnson, whose memorial Angel Prize Fund was the night's main beneficiary.

While a portion of the evening was dedicated to modeling Middlebury College campus gear and evening wear, the production translated into more of a variety show than an actual fashion show.

With a total of 22 acts, the evening both entertained and informed.

The themed concept for "Joining Together in Motown Love" emerged after a talk by Associate Professor of Literature and Civilization Will Nash during the AAA-Black History Month symposium in February.

Parliamentarian of AAA Juan Pena '03 explained that "Motown tried to portray African Americans in a way contrary to perceived [stereotypes], which was that African Americans were more sexual" among many other misconceptions. "Motown was able to bring all of the races together, and that was what we were trying to convey," he said.

Amidst choreographed lip syncing to the Jackson Five and the Supremes, interspersed with Question and Answer segments during which audience members won prizes and a beautiful recitation of a "Motown Hits and Bits," a poem written and read by Natlie Fisher '06, the audience learned a tremendous amount about the Motown movement.

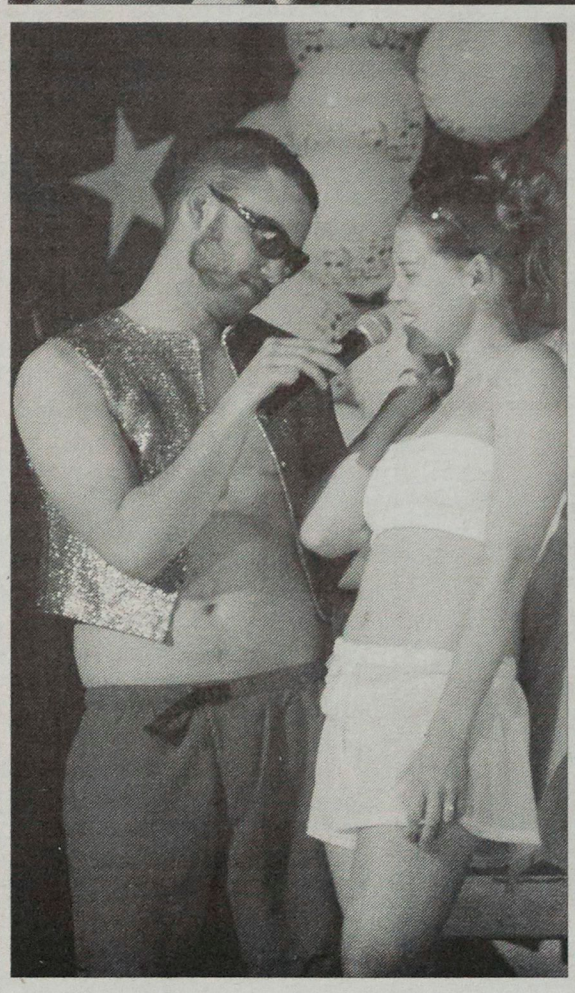
From the emcees, attired true to the time period with colorful suits, gloves and pillbox hats, to the innocent choreography and complete skin coverage during the Supremes bit, "everything had a reason" in the show, Pena explains.

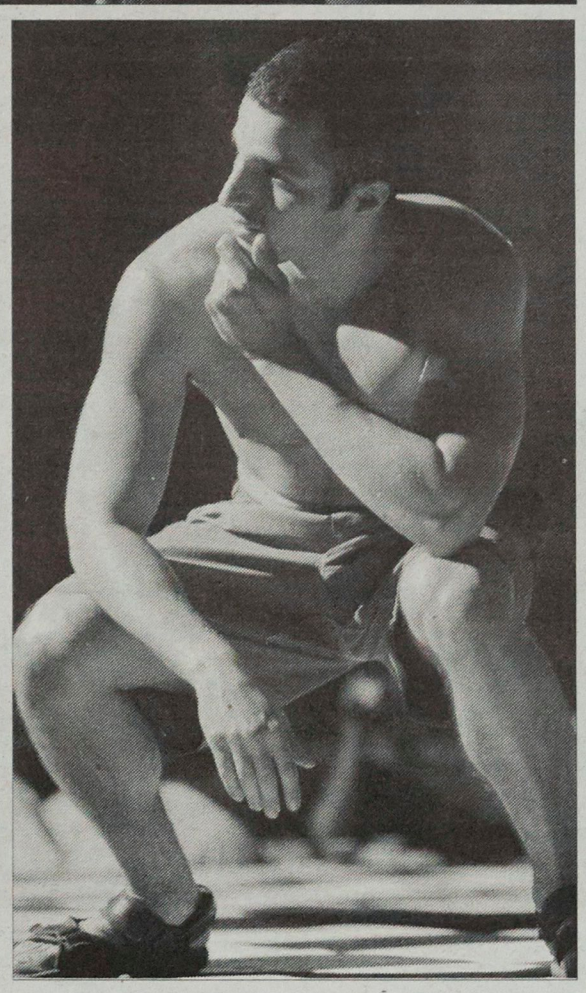
The PALANA kids were the highlight of the show, taking a star role in the evening. Two boys and three girls performed a flawlessly choreographed dance to "Puppy Love" that put smiles on every face in the audience. Lauding the children with cheers and laughter, the audience undoubtedly favored the young kids who walked with attitude.

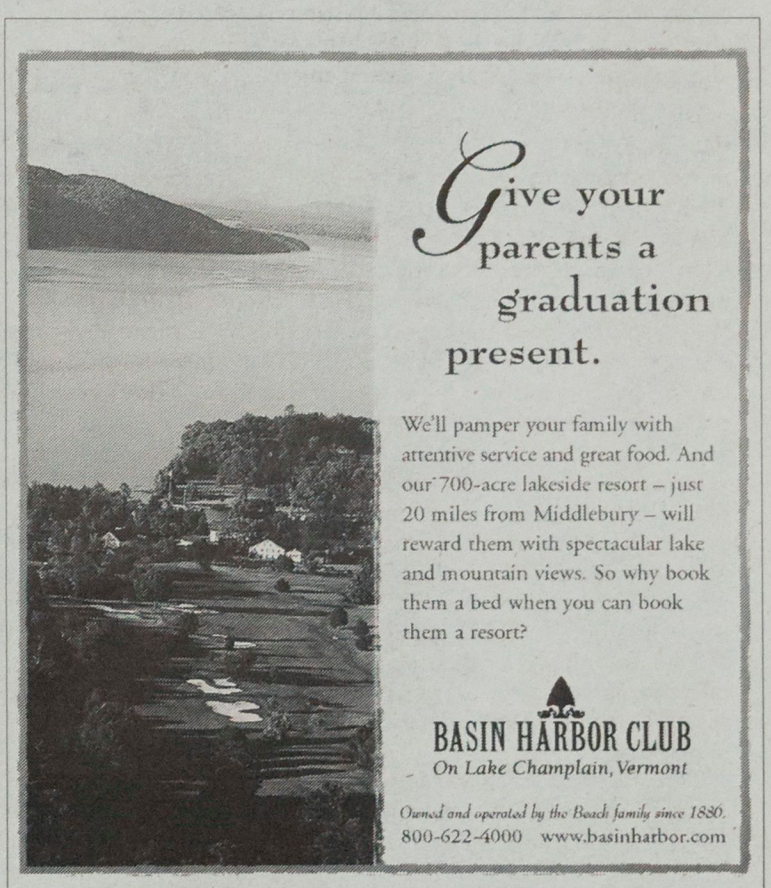
Morgan A. Jones's '04 beatboxing melted hearts with a rendition of past McCullough stage performer Rahzel's "If Your Mother Only Knew," and Andy Rossmeissl '05 and Mark Davis '05 traced the impact Motown has had on P-Funk and George Clinton, hip hop's Bomb Squad Public Enemy, through samplings taken by Jay-Z from the Jackson Five in "H to the Izzo."

Steaming things up a bit, the performance included a mock swimwear competition and lingerie walk.

Despite a few sound problems, the evening proved a successful one, thanks to Taylor and Co-President of Women of Color Jan'l Hastings-Robinson '03 for their dedication and long hours.






Give your parents a graduation present.
We'll pamper your family with attentive service and great food. And our 700-acre lakeside resort – just 20 miles from Middlebury – will reward them with spectacular lake and mountain views. So why book them a bed when you can book them a resort?
BASIN HARBOR CLUB
On Lake Champlain, Vermont
Owned and operated by the Beach family since 1880.
800-622-4000 www.basinharbor.com

Kelly Clarkson Navigates the Pop Scene

By Lanford Beard
Staff Writer

At this particular moment in pop history, we seem to have transcended pre-fabrication. One too-soon-to-tell, pre-pre-fab success story is Kelly Clarkson, who earned her fame courtesy of a nationally televised talent contest in which she formed a musical persona before releasing her first album.

After the whirlwind success of "American Idol" this past summer, Clarkson was thrown into a situation of equal parts promise and bleakness.

The promise resulted from the fact that she should have 15 million fans immediately behind her if she could produce an album in the next few months.

The bleakness originated in three areas:

1) She had already cultivated an image based off of the songs of other (established) women.

2) She would have to compromise her own artistic development to give America what it wanted — more of the same.

3) The path forged by the pop stars before her is well-worn but not particularly hopeful.

The one exception to the television pop star rule, O-Town, has already made its name as a flash in the pan with hits like "Liquid Dreams," and I would bet that most of America wouldn't bat an eye at the mention of Eden's Crush and Scene 23.

So, with fame supposedly handed to her on a silver platter, Kelly Clarkson took several risks. After a post-victory press tour and the "American Idol" national tour, she postponed her album release to early 2003 and then again to April 15, 2003.

What's the scandal, you ask?

Primarily, Kelly risked losing the steam of her conditional status as America's sweetheart by virtually disappearing from the public eye. As many one-hit wonders before her have discovered, America's heart is fickle, and when we don't get what we want, we revolt.

Also, "AI's" savvy producers booked the beginning of the second season to begin in January 2003. Though Kelly has performed on episodes of the new season, the postponed release of her album places her in a precarious position where the potential love of new idols (like Ruuuuuuben, Clay and Trenyce) compromises her own marketability. After all, how can she be the "real" American Idol if another one will be pumped out in a few months?

In addition to these issues, Kelly had to ask herself some important questions about the warp-speed trajectory of her own shooting star of a career.

Would she chance overexposure by appearing on "AI 2", releasing a movie and an album all within a few months of each other? Furthermore, would this overexposure relegate her to the inconsequential fate of acts like New Kids on the Block and Tiffany?

Could she forge a dynamic pop persona despite the shifting tide of America's affections?

Could she stake any claim to her Idol status in the midst of twelve new contenders and in contest with the albums of the first season runners-up?

Can she count on the long-lasting affections of a public that hasn't seen her in — gasp — over six months? (Taking a break was even risky for pop's reigning princess, Britney Spears.)

Despite all these doubts and perils, Kelly continued recording her album, and now the finished product has been released in the form of her debut album, appropriately titled, "Thankful." And as a late-in-the-game "AI" fanatic, I know that I am truly thankful that Kelly hasn't been swallowed into pop oblivion.

Along with her first two singles, "Before Your Love" and "A Moment Like This," which were released a week after the "AI" season finale, Kelly has recorded 10 additional tracks. It is uncertain what the album's third single is, but I can say with certainty that the album as a whole is not what everyone expects.

When guessing the flow of the album, I envisioned two possible paths: 1) A collection of Celine Dion-style ballads that will satisfy the fans that voted for Kelly in her last weeks on "AI" or 2) A complete regression into synthesized pop alla oops-era Britney. Either of these options would take merely a good producer, a good lyricist and minimal participation on Kelly's part.

However, the album delay has allowed Kelly to offer up a mélange of pop confections. (She also had time to star in a movie musical with "AI" runner-up Justin Guarini, but the music and general content of that venture seems like a train wreck waiting to happen.)

"Thankful," of course, includes its share of diva songs like the first singles, the title track and "Anytime."

It is clear that Kelly isn't completely into her own on three of the album's tracks ("The Trouble with Love Is," "Low" and "What's Up Lonely"), which are basically sell-out, boring R&B send-ups. On the opposite end of the perspective is the funky and in-your-face song "Miss Independent." It is definitely the disc's most pop-infused track. Most of the songs, however, grow on you slowly. They seem bland at first, but the hooks and Kelly's vocal styling sharpen with each listen.

Among these dark horse tracks are "Beautiful Disaster" and "Just Missed the Train," which are not quite mainstream pop-country, not quite rock.

In the end, these tracks' ambiguous genre sells them more than anything. They demand more attention so that their idiosyncrasies can be defined and their subtleties appreciated.

The beauty of Kelly's voice is her ability to inject meaning and vulnerability into power ballads that showcase her booming diva voice. She showed it time and time on the show — particularly at the end when her voice could have collapsed at any moment.

The finest moment for this particular skill comes on the song "Some Kind of Miracle." Kelly showcases her restraint in all the right spots but this restraint does not preclude her from pulling out all the stops when appropriate.

My favorite song, "You Thought Wrong," features Tamyra Gray, the most shocking early exit from last year's "AI" race to celebrity.

She was Kelly's strongest competition, having the edge over even Guarini. Unlike the lukewarm ballad duets common to Barbara Streisand, this song is an angry, man-hating rock powerhouse — so good.

It is, I will mention, rather ironic that the most enjoyable song on the album only makes us anticipate more the release of another "AI" contestant — and in its irony appropriate. Like the pre-pre-fab celebrity that she is, even Kelly falls into the trap of egregious, monopolistic cross-promotion, but we'll forgive her for that. Who can blame her?

Overall, the album could be hurt by its lack of a consistent musical genre, but I like that variety. Kelly is not Matchbox 20, she needs some breathing room in order to sustain a career.

Ultimately, she is allowing herself to develop in any number of directions with this album, which is a shrewd move for someone in her position. So the age-old question pops up again? Is it the producers or the talent?

As we have noted with Britney Spears, good producers can shape a career and make it huge; and with Christina Aguilera, bad producers (and personal stylists — yikes!) can drive it into the ground.

Kelly, for now, is striking a good balance between unbounded talent and strict control.

Whichever path she chooses to follow in her continued development is still in question, and no one can promise Kelly a long career, but based on her performance on this album, at least she can say she did it with dignity.

Courtesy
The long anticipated release of America's sweetheart, Kelly Clarkson, keeps fans in anticipation of her success.

Blowin' Indie Wind

Pete Yorn: Shedding the Hangover

By Erika E. Mercer
Arts Editor

"If I try to forget something, that's when I end up remembering it."

Pete Yorn's recent release, "Day I Forgot," puts this statement to music. It is the snapshot memory that is indelibly marked on your consciousness, the image or scene from long ago that recurs in your mind.

The Artist: Pete Yorn
The Album: "Day I Forgot"
April 15, 2003

Perhaps it is faded, perhaps it is ragged around the edges, but it cannot be overlooked. Sometimes you might worry that you've forgotten it, sometimes you might wish to forget it and sometimes you might proclaim that you have forgotten it, yet its memory remains.

Hailing from Montville, N.J., Yorn, the son of a dentist father and school-teacher mother, became acquainted with music at age nine when he taught himself to play drums.

Three years later he picked up guitar, beginning by playing songs by his music idols the Smiths and the Cure — at times he even attempted a British accent.

"I thought I was a mini-Morrissey," he commented in an interview. "Then I realized, 'You should have your own voice, Pete,' but that took time."

Yorn eventually began writing songs of his own, but it wasn't until 1990 that he made his first public singing debut at Montville High School's talent show, where he (fittingly) performed the Replacements' hit, "Talent Show" and Neil Young's "Rockin' In the Free World."

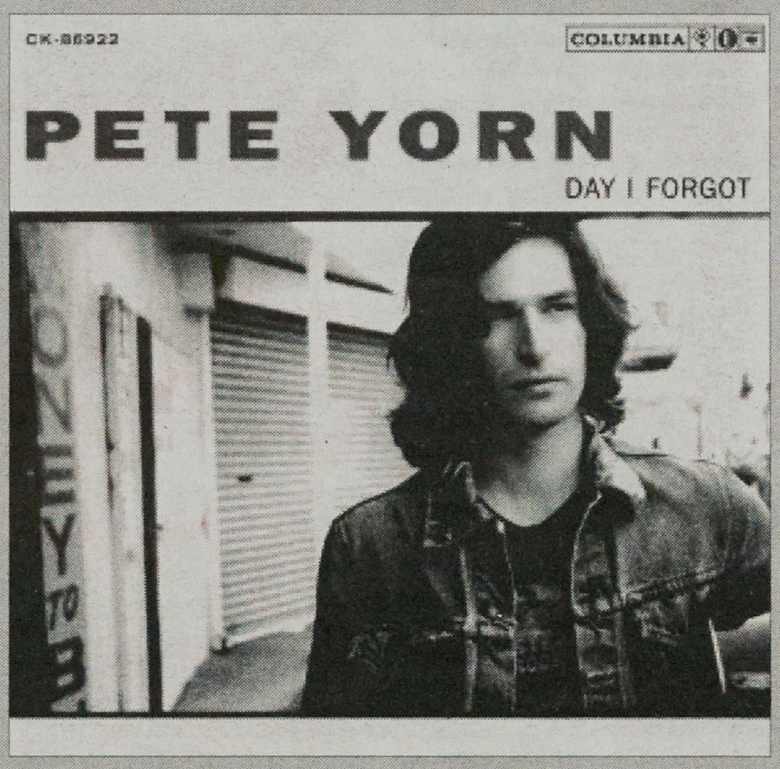
Throughout his college years at Syracuse University, Yorn continued writing music, moving after graduation to Los Angeles to form a band with several close college friends that played under Yorn's name at local venues. In addition, he joined a punk band, Million, and began raising funds to make an album independently.

Not long thereafter, Yorn landed a record deal after an acoustic performance of his song, "Life On A Chain," at a local L.A. bar, *Café Largo*, impressed Hollywood producer Bradley Thomas who, along with placing several of Yorn's songs on the soundtrack to the Farrelly Brothers' film, "Me, Myself and Irene," also invited Yorn to compose the film's score.

The soundtrack was released in July 2000, followed eight months in March 2001 by Yorn's first solo album, "musicforthemorningafter," released on Columbia Records.

Heralded by critics as the rebirth of rock, Yorn's "musicforthemorningafter" catapulted the New Jersey native to fame, and it wasn't

(see Day, page 24)



Sara Stranovsky: A Renaissance Woman

She Sings, Dances and Writes, But Does She Ever Sleep?

By Lucie Greene
Staff Writer

The first thing that strikes you after meeting Sara Stranovsky '04 is her energy. When you contemplate the member of groups she's involved in, it's difficult to imagine how one person could participate in and be talented at quite so much.

It was refreshing to meet someone like her in an environment where many are concerned, even in their extracurricular activities, primarily with their career and academic advancement. Stranovsky seems quite literally driven to create, be it through dance, music, design or writing.

And this, too, with an enthusiasm and down-to-earth friendliness that makes her altogether endearing. *The Middlebury Campus* caught up with her in between bracelet designing (she does this too), poetry writing, rehearsals for Sharipoons and RIDDIM dance rehearsals — does she ever stop? — to gain better insight into one of the most visible and talented women on campus.

The Campus: So Sara, where are you from?

Sara Stranovsky: Haha! Summit New Jersey. I think I need to hide now.

The Campus: How did you first get started singing and dancing at school?

S.S: My mom was an artist and my dad was a ski racer so, since my main activities growing up were all in the areas of art and ski racing, I suppose I sort of took after them. I took classes at a professional ballet school that was pretty much as intensive as you can get without taking your academic courses there and trained in ballet, sprinkled with other dance forms.

After breaking my leg in 11th grade from ski racing, I had to sort of step back a little to heal. So I got really into doing plays, poetry and singing in a jazz band. I guess I started singing in school because I stuck to the music and art electives. My social life consisted of immersing myself in any sort of performance and artistic opportunity available. Not much has changed, really.

The Campus: I see. So how did you first get involved when you got to Middlebury?

S.S: I would stop to check out all the bulletin boards — writing all the dates and times for auditions for groups all over my arm and hand. Basically, I knew what kinds of groups I wanted to join and sought them out, and if I didn't, they just sort of found me I guess.

The Campus: How many things are you involved in exactly?

S.S. Sharipoons Funk Brigade, RIDDIM, Mischords. There's a few. Plus I write songs and play guitar, write poetry, design bracelets. I was in the Dance Company of Middlebury Cuba project and am a snowboard instructor.

The Campus: (Phew. Waiting as the color returns to Sara's face after taking a much-needed breath.) So you do a lot then. What are your favorite artists and greatest inspirations?

Louisa Conrad

It is hard to imagine when Sara Stranovsky '04 actually takes time to sleep. This talented woman sings, dances, writes poetry, plays the guitar, designs bracelets and continues to be a dedicated Middlebury student all at the same time.

S.S: That's such a hard question, because as much as I sing, I feel like there's always just worlds of things that I don't know about or have yet to listen to. Most of the music I listen to these days ranges from unknown garage bands to Ella to the latest CD I find on my floor.

Hmmm… I guess if I could describe how I want to sing, I'd want to take Ella Fitzgerald's bouncy sweetness, Ani Difranco's guitar skills and lyrics, the bold energy of ska, that catchy essence from one or two radio hits, and some sort of sultry funk.

What does that give? Jabluesifunkifolkrock. But I can't really do that. I can only perform as myself.

SPOTLIGHT ON
Sara Stranovsky '04

The greatest thing about funk music (I think that's what we're labeling the stuff we play in Sharipoons) is its energy. There's nothing like singing and having all of your best pals from dance class dancing close enough to slap you a high five.

The Campus: Again, what is it about dance? Do you have a favorite medium or genre?

S.S: You may begin to notice a trend here. *I cannot focus on anything*, even within artistic worlds.

There are genres within genres within subjects that I absolutely love and have to try to do! For dance, more street-oriented genres such as funk and hip-hop are always fun and inspirational, and they help you become an overall versatile dancer.

Likewise, ballet, martial arts, jazz and modern help inform each other as well. The downfall in trying to do everything is that you feel like for each individual activity, you could have done better if you only did that thing… but that's just not me. The determination is, but I need versatility and variety.

The Campus: So where do you think this will lead? Are you ambitious to take this into a career after leaving?

S.S: Is there a career for the Renaissance woman? Hmm… This is the question I have been struggling with indefinitely.

This is what I will do: I will multitask it on Broadway (singing, dancing, acting etc.), while singing in a rock band, while owning an interior and costume design company, while selling artwork, while going to grad or medical school, while getting the Nobel prize for my illustrated poetry, while giving lectures on my book, "How to Be in Ten Different Places at Once."

I'd like to make it happen, but it will be just in bits and pieces with some mental breakdowns along the way. But I'm an artist, and that's what I need, right? (Tentative smile) I think that my conflict between artist and successful businesswoman will never relieve itself.

The Campus: Finally, and a good chance to plug, what events will you be appearing in soon?

S.S: Hopefully Sharipoons will be Funking it up with some gigs soon.

Ellen Smith '05 and I are also showing our semester modern dance duet work in the CFA during the last week of classes.

I have a Grille show end of May (soon!), and the Mischords will be performing on May 9.

The Campus: Good luck, Sara. Thanks very much.

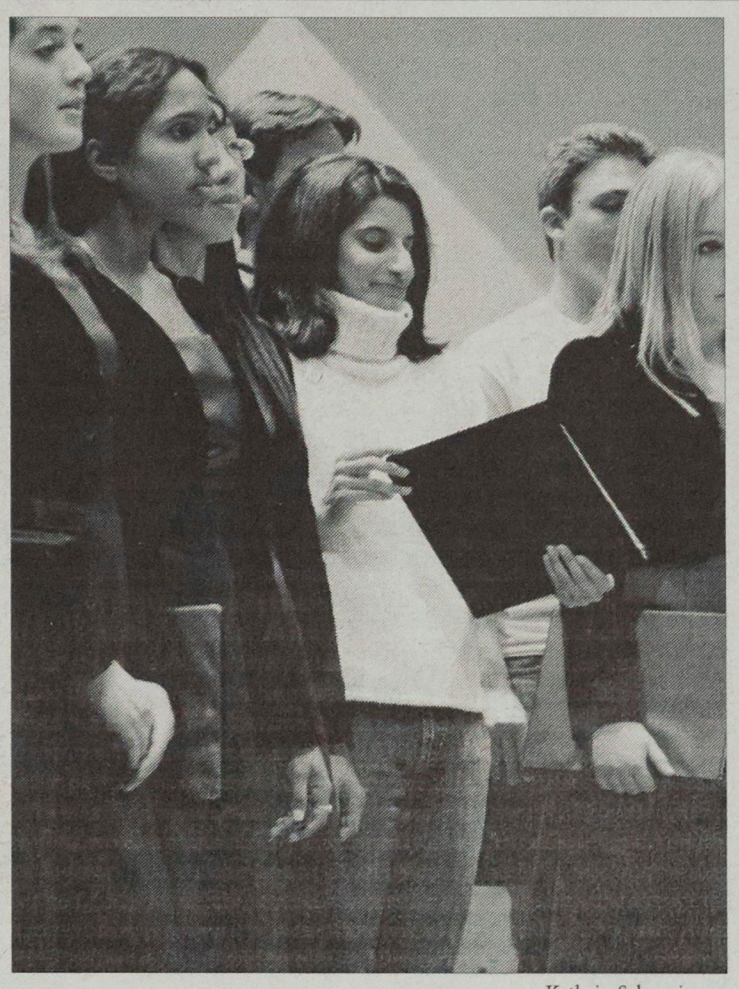
S.S: Thanks.

Spring Sing

Hosting the Menlo Schoool Chorus, *the Middlebury College Chamber Singers performed in a joint concert at the Center for the Arts this past Friday. The Menlo Chorus of Atherton, Calif., was on a week-long tour of Quebec and Vermont that included stops in Montreal and Stowe. The chorus performed many pieces individually, including Franz Biebl's "Ave Maria" and "Te Deum in C Major" by Joseph Haydn. The Chamber Singers performed the first four pieces in a five-piece song cycle by Morten Lauridsen, set to Rainer Maria Rilke's "Les Roses." The Menlo Chorus finished the set with the fifth piece in the cycle, entitled "Dirait-on." In addition, the two groups collaborated on "How Lovely are the Messengers" by Felix Mendelssohn. The Middlebury College Chamber Singers will give their annual Spring Concert Sat. May 3*

— Kathryn Olson

Photo by Kathrin Schwesinger



Kathrin Schwesinger

literary picks

By Edward Pickering
News Editor

Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy

by John le Carré
Alfred A. Knopf 1974

John le Carré cuts a patrician figure in the world of spy writing. He has been in the game for a long time — since 1974, in fact, when "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy" topped bestseller charts across the globe.

The novel, the first in a trilogy, is simply sensational. Le Carré, a former spy himself, captures the high intrigue and high stakes of Cold War espionage. Regarded as the premier spymaster writing today, le Carré delivers a meticulously paced, tightly woven narrative whose greatest strength is the portrayal of its protagonist.

George Smiley is recalled from his forced retirement to hunt out a mole in the highest circles of the British secret service. In doing so Smiley comes up against an old adversary, Karla, the Russian super-spy in charge of the mole. Smiley and Karla have a long history that includes, among other encounters, an interrogation in India. Englishman and Russian engage in a covert game of move/countermove. Unable to trust anyone in the British intelligence establishment, Smiley persecutes his investigations in absolute secrecy from friend and foe alike.

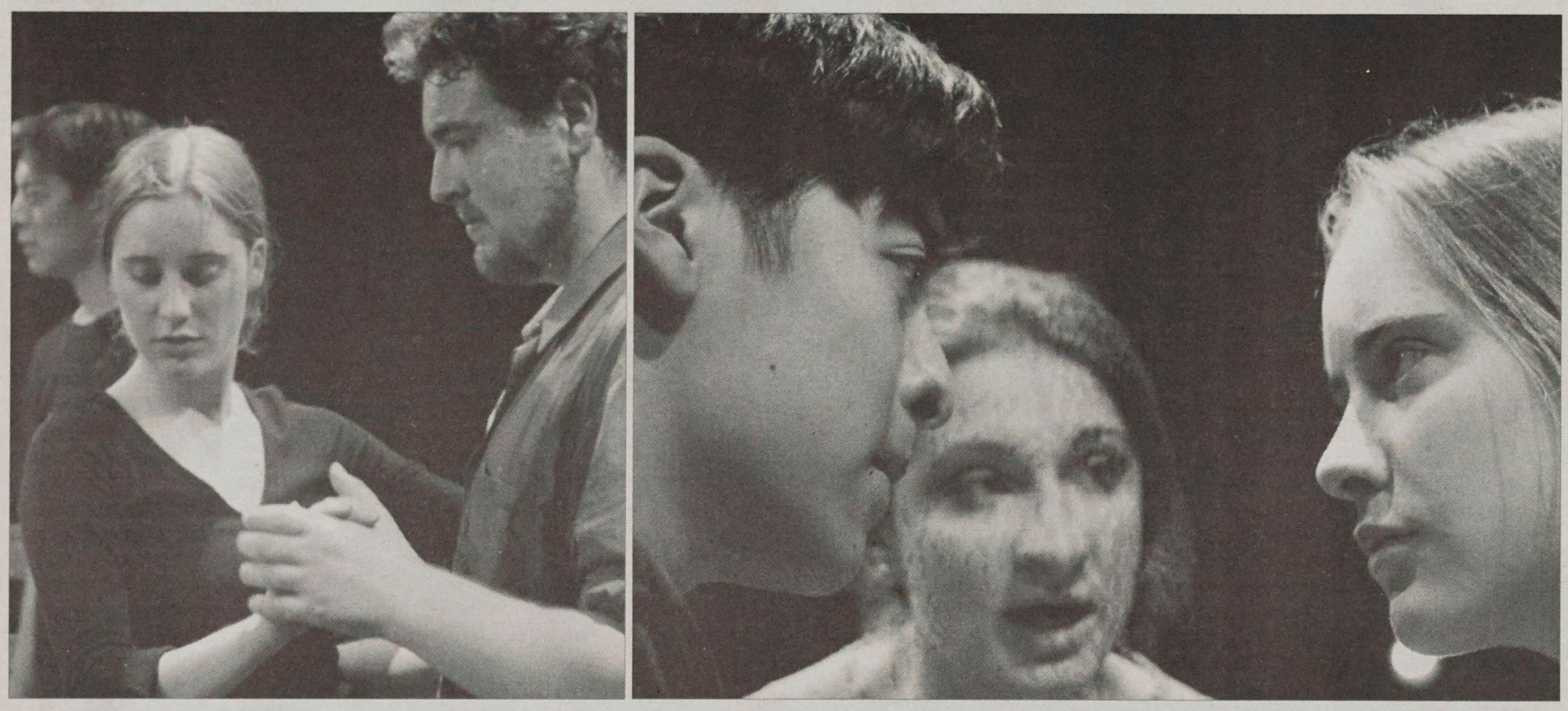
Smiley's personality and method, both unique, propel the novel forward. Overweight, aging and estranged from his wife, Smiley pursues the mole up and down the Secret Service hierarchy. The mole is well placed — that is to say, very highly placed and privy to the most sensitive secrets. Smiley, unassuming, dogged and even lugubrious at times, narrows the suspects down to four men, codenamed Tinker, Tailor, Soldier and Spy. These are men he knows and worked with in the past — men with whom he shared drinks at the day's end. Smiley's task is both personal and impersonal, for he must investigate these acquaintances but in the interest of his nation. Says Smiley, speaking to an ex-field agent who, betrayed by the mole, barely escaped with his life,

"You're a plain fieldman who lets the other chaps do his thinking. Nevertheless, when you know you have been led into a king-sized trap, betrayed, shot in the back and have nothing to do for months but lie or sit on a bunk, or pace a Russian cell, I would guess that even the most dedicated man [might wonder] how he landed in such a scrape."

The narrative unfolds slowly, not rapidly like some of today's bestsellers in which pages of impossibly dramatic action follow one another. Curious, cerebral readers will appreciate the slower, more nuanced pace of this character driven thriller, a masterpiece of Cold War mystery.

'The Fever' Makes Audience Sweat with Self-Awareness

Starbucks-Like Atmosphere in Zoo Dramatizes Developing World Dilemma



Kathrin Schwesinger

Elizabeth Hammett '05 and Ben Fainstein '04 share a moment in "The Fever" this past weekend in the Hepburn Zoo (left). Dan Pruksarnukul '04, Seda Savas '05 and Hammett continue the dialogue on development and trade in "The Fever" (right).

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

On Saturday afternoon I wandered happily into the Hepburn Zoo Theater and was surprised and delighted to find coffee and a delectable assortment of cookies laid out on a table next to the entrance.

I poured myself a much-needed cup of java with plenty of sugar and quickly claimed one of the large, comfortable chairs, which had been mixed in with the normal Zoo chairs and arranged in a circle around the playing space.

Soon some of my friends started to arrive for the performance so we sat around talking about work, drinking our coffee and making ourselves comfortable in an atmosphere that seemed much more like a Starbucks than the Zoo.

As the house lights dimmed we all sat back in our chairs, eager for the dramatic action to begin.

Then there was a complete blackout and suddenly multiple voices cried in unison, "I'm traveling — and I wake suddenly in the silence before dawn in a strange hotel room, in a poor country where my language isn't spoken, and I'm shaking and shivering."

With the quick light change and these few words I, along with the rest of the audience in the Zoo, was hurled into one of the most intense theatrical experiences I have had at Middlebury.

The play, by well-known actor and playwright Wallace Shawn, used text and movement to tell the story of an upper-class American who becomes completely disillusioned about her privileged and sheltered life after reading the writings of Karl Marx and traveling extensively in what were referred to as "well-known revolutionary countries."

In her program notes, director Joya Scott '03.5 wrote, "When I decided that this was a story I needed to tell here, I had no idea what I was getting into — indeed, I think I still have no idea. But I know one thing: to question is one of the most human of acts, and in times like these, 'The Fever' is more relevant than ever."

Ben Fainstein '04, Elizabeth Hammett '05, Dan Pruksarnukul '04 and Seda Savas '05, worked together beautifully as an ensemble, taking over the narration from each other seamlessly and making sharp and unified transitions in physicality and tone — from parties on Fifth Avenue to prisons in South America.

> The horrendous conditions of coffee pickers in South America were described as the audience sat clutching its coffee cups with a growing discomfort.

And the play was extremely relevant. The horrendous conditions of coffee pickers in South America were exposed as the audience sat clutching its coffee cups with a growing discomfort. The horror of war and torture unfolding in other countries was also juxtaposed against the isolated and blissfully ignorant world of the American upper and middle classes. The cast of four actors, four actors piled in the center of the floor, viewed through the railings of chair backs that suggested prison bars.

The actors' extensive and adept use of choreographed movement was particularly effective, from the initial image of Hammett and Pruksarnukul lurching up and down, tied together in the death throws following their violent execution, to the final image of the America and the war-torn countries the narrator visited.

Precise changes in the lighting, designed by Caitlin Hicks '04, heightened the contrast between the two worlds of the play: serene

After shattering the soothing spell of the dim houselights with the opening blackout, the play alternated chiefly between a warm yellow light in the scenes of happy memories in America and a harsh, bluish light in the scenes of prison and war.

For 90 minutes, without intermission, the actors shared scenes of extreme happiness and acute terror, often sitting down next to audience members and speaking directly to them in an exceedingly effective attempt to force the audience to truly become engaged in the events occurring before it.

The piece was an unrelenting expose of America's "fetishism of commodities" and self-centered disregard of the plights of people in other parts of the world.

Scott definitely managed to burst the proverbial Middlebury bubble and to force her audience to confront the pain and suffering caused by war, which is so often repressed in happily sheltered communities like ours.

The perceptibly deep emotional investment of the actors, director and production team could not help but elicit an equally powerful response on the part of the audience.

"Day I Forgot:" An Album of Snapshots

(continued from page 22)

long before he was playing to sold-out crowds at New York's Hammerstein Ballroom.

Yorn commented on the album, "I made this record and I didn't compromise at all creatively. I didn't write songs that I thought might get on the radio or people might like. I just made a record of songs that I like and music that made me feel good when I was driving around in my car."

This motivation is apparent in "musicforthemorningafter," described by critics as honest, gritty and heartfelt.

On "musicforthemorningafter," Yorn combines influences ranging from Wilco to Gram Parsons, yet ends up with his own unique sound.

"At the end of the day, it's my own thing," he explains. "I definitely rip off everyone I love, but I'm not that good at it."

On April 15, Yorn released his sophomore album, "Day I Forget," on Columbia Records.

If his first release was music for the morning after, then "Day I Forgot" is music for the morning after that.

Tune in to hear Pete Yorn featured on WRMC 91.1:
DJ: Anais Mitchell
Show: "Radio Flyer"
Time: Thursday, April 24, from 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

More autobiographical and introspective, while at the same time somewhat louder and more rocking, "Day I Forgot" begins when the hangover ends and the real world starts.

Shorter, tighter, yet still very much in the same style, Yorn's new album — on which he plays almost all of the instruments — retains the charm but lacks the epic greatness of "musicforthemorningafter."

It is not a masterpiece but a solid album, a collection of catchy, polished and authentic songs.

Once again, Yorn shows that he can be both bad-ass and sophisticated.

He boasts lively songs such as "Burrito," a fun-filled power-pop piece about "hanging around in front of the 7-Eleven when I was a teenager living in Jersey and eating too many of those microwave burritos while waiting to go over to the house of the first love I ever had."

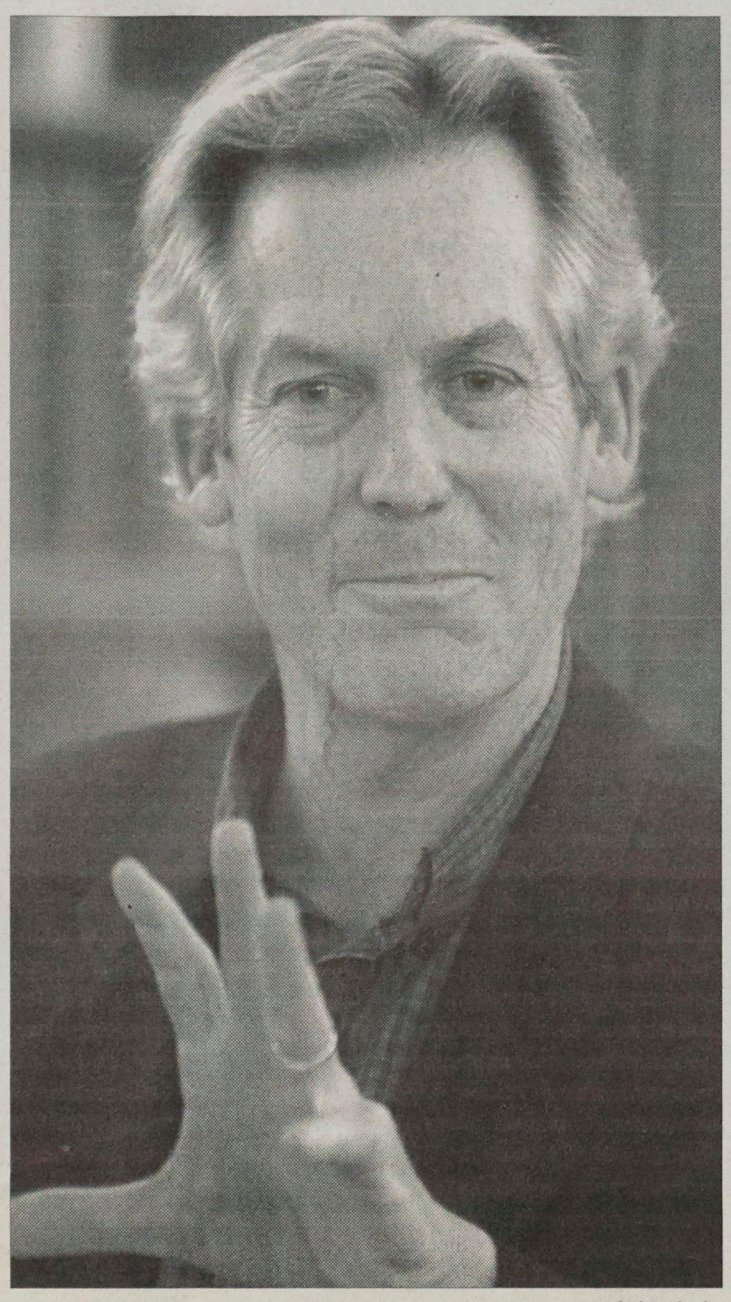
At the same time, directly preceding "Burrito" is "Turn of the Century," a mournful waltz about a relationship falling apart, in which Yorn sings, "Saw my reflection, covered in glass / How it reminds me of you / Broken like a vision, an unfinished season / Terror had struck me, but all I could see is your soft skin."

"Day I Forgot" repeatedly offers such snapshot images of Yorn's life, pieced together into an album of songs as memories.

Sometimes regretful, sometimes contented and always nostalgic, Yorn's release is an effort to simultaneously remember and forget.

While not as massive as "musicforthemorningafter," "Day I Forgot," is a commendable sophomore effort from an artist who still has much up his sleeve.

Poetic Flair in Starr Library



Vlad Lodoaba

Michael Collier, *director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, pauses for a moment during a poetry reading Monday afternoon.*

Con Man Caught in Catch Me If You Can

By Vlad Lodoaba
Photo Editor

You'd think that people learn something from the experience of banging their head really hard against a wall, but that doesn't seem to be the case with Steven Spielberg.

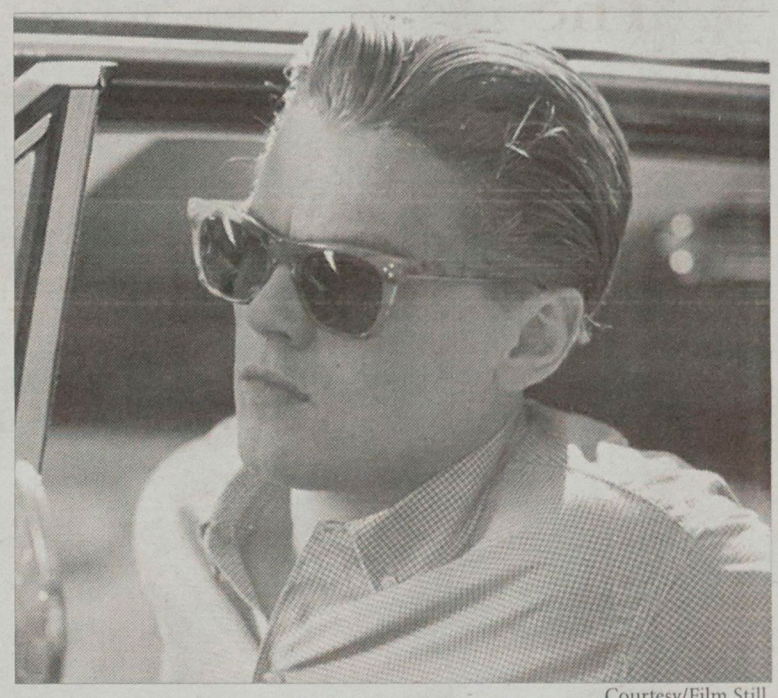
His "A.I." was a crash-and-burn movie, mainly because of its unjustified length and the soporific attempts at cheap melodrama, often at the expense of character development, and the same features are apparent, even if to a lesser extent, in his 2002 movie "Catch Me if You Can."

"Catch Me if You Can" is based on the real story of Frank Abagnale (Leonardo DiCaprio), a brilliant kid from a middle-class (dysfunctional) family who runs away from home and chooses a life of crime.

Abagnale becomes an accomplished fraudster and conman, impersonates an airline pilot, a doctor, a lawyer and an FBI agent. He makes a fortune by forging checks and appropriating funds from various corporations — already a bonus with a target audience formed of rebel teenagers and civil rights fighters who want to bring down the corporate order.

By now the plot should sound a bit like "The Talented Mr. Ripley", or "Ocean's Eleven": never has impersonating someone else seemed so easy, nor has taking from the rich and giving to oneself so attractive.

Sadly, while "Catch Me If you Can" emulates both those movies, it lacks drama and excitement. The high-intensity, cat-and-mouse game between Abagnale and the FBI agent Carl Hanratty, brilliantly played by Tom Hanks, is often interrupted by irrelevant sub-plots, side-stories and made confusing by the flashback narrative. Throughout the movie, Abagnale tries to get his parents back together, which is touching, but hardly relevant to the plot or to Abagnale's motivations for his actions.



Courtesy/Film Still

Spielberg's Catch Me If You Can *graced the Middlebury Campus this past weekend, featuring the rash antics of pretty boy Leonardo DiCaprio.*

"Catch Me if You Can" starts in the late 60s, as Abagnale is eventually caught by Hanratty somewhere in France. Then, Abagnale's story is revealed through a series of flashbacks, poorly constructed and still leaving the audience with unanswered questions after 140 minutes. When he is only a teenager, in the early 60s, Abagnale is pushed to a life of crime by his parents' divorce and their attempt to commit him to one parent or the other.

He puts a lot of time and care into impersonating his characters, he learns everything there is to know about planes by doing "interviews" for his school paper with the pilots, then becomes a convincing doctor by watching "Dr. Kildare" ("ER" for those of you less familiar with the marvels of your parents' favorite TV dramas), and swiftly adopts the judicial language used by Perry Mason.

All this time, Abagnale travels throughout America, keeps the FBI off his tracks, tries to get his parents back together and manages to find true love. Ain't that cute. How can we not sympathize with a sweet, vulnerable, misguided kid such as DiCaprio's Frank Abagnale? Especially since he only steals from corporations, and not one innocent person is hurt.

And to show what a good guy he is, Abagnale calls Hanratty every year on Christmas Eve to ask him about his estranged daughter, eventually establishing a friendship between the two. Well, the audience is forced to sympathize with Abagnale for lack of any other choice.

Hanratty, the FBI agent, is a clever and serious man, but also deadly dull. Hanks is really good at making the Feds look like a bunch of blundering imbeciles (his pathetic attempts to get the gun out of an oversized holster are classic). In these conditions, we really don't have much freedom in whom we choose to sympathize with.

Of course, by the end of the movie, Abagnale is caught and sentenced to a very long time in prison. The FBI, and Abagnale's old friend Hanratty, realize the teenager's brilliance and decide to recruit him for their Fraud Department.

And here is where the stretch of imagination comes: after more than two hours of making the audience an accomplice, Abagnale's clever outmaneuvers of the FBI, Spielberg now wants us to believe that Frank has turned good and, given the possibility, he will not try to escape – with the characters lacking any sort of psychological depth, we can hardly be blamed for refusing to accept this.

Although it has many flaws, "Catch Me if You Can" is not a horrible film to watch. It's lighthearted, humorous, brilliant at recreating the atmosphere and the costumes of the 60s (although the hippies are conspicuously absent). The opening credits are a clever pastiche of Pink Panther shows, and who can say "no" to the Pink Panther?

Grade: 7.5 out of 10.

art calendar
(hey, get outta town.)

editor s pick

GAIA DRUM-AND-DANCE: Brought to you by Village Green Drum Collective, this event gives you the opportunity to bang out all that spring energy. All levels of experience are welcome to this family-friendly, community drum banging session.
When: Sat., April 26 at 7- 9:30 p.m.
Where: Bridge School, Middlebury.
Info: 545-2223.
Price: $5.

music

LONGWAVE: Hailing from New York with shaggy hair, Longwave got together because it felt right. Their second album, entitled The Strangest Things , shuns the current scene-motivated garage rock in favor of a more cool and calm, individual sound. This record unites 80s indie, new wave, and 90s agnst. Hmmm....
When: Thurs., April 24.
Where: Club Metronome, Burlington.
Info: www.clubmetronome.com.
Price: FREE!

PAQUITO D RIVERA: Spicing up the Flynn MainStage, Grammy-winning saxman/clarinetist/composer Paquito D Rivera infect the audience with his Latin rhythms and straight ahead jazz. This artist, a child prodigy, began his career in Cuba. Not only has he received four Grammy Awards (YES, FOUR!), he has also been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award.
When: Sat., April 26.
Where: Flynn MainStage, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.com.
Price: $15-24; students save $5.

NATALIE MACMASTER: This Grammy award nominee returns with her foot-tapping tunes to the Flynn Center stage. With her Celtic fiddling, she has played with The Chieftains, Mark O Connor, and Alison Krauss. Hailing from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, MacMaster is worth the claps and stomps.
When: Tues., April 29 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Flynn Center, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.com or 86-FLYNN
Price: $23.50.

SUZANNE VEGA: Falling into the category with Tracy Chapman, Shawn Colvin, Indigo Girls and Sarah McLachlan that ushered in a movement of female folk-pop singer/songwriters, Vega helped thrash down a new path for music. Breaking onto the scene in the 80s, working throught the 90s, and now once again resurfacing, Vega will host public radio s American Mavericks series beginning in April while continuing to record and tour.
When: Sun., April 27 at 7 p.m.
Where: Higher Ground, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.com or 86-FLYNN.
Price: $23.50.

THE BUTCHIES: Loaded with the sound of classic rock guitars, big-booming drums and basslines that send you into crying hysterics or a dancing frenzy, The Butchies, according to the Higher Ground are a fast car ride from another heartbreak, the mile markers of love and war, and the last song on a mix tape. They are creating their own form of rock and roll.
When: Tues., April 29 at 8 p.m.
Where: Higher Ground, Burlington.
Info: www.flynncenter.com or 86-FLYNN
Price: $8.

Men's Lacrosse

Schedule (10-1)

Mar. 8	New England College	13-3 W
Mar. 15	Colby	9-5 W
Mar. 19	Springfield	11-7 W
Mar. 22	Connecticut College	18-8 W
Mar. 26	at Gettysburg	7-6 L
Mar. 29	at Wesleyan	16-7 W
Apr. 1	at Union	22-5 W
Apr. 9	at Tufts	12-7 W
Apr. 12	Bowdoin	13-11 W
Apr. 13	at Trinity	8-6 W
Apr. 19	Amherst	18-7 W
Apr. 23	at Williams	4:15
Apr. 26	Bates	1:00
Apr. 27	NESCAC First Round	TBA
May 3	NESCAC Semifinals	TBA
May 4	NESCAC Championship	TBA

Women's Lacrosse

Schedule (8-0)

Mar. 15	Colby	17-7 W
Mar. 22	at Connecticut College	19-3 W
Mar. 23	at Wesleyan	20-5 W
Mar. 26	at Eastern Conn. (in Florida)	15-1 W
Apr. 1	at Union	19-5 W
Apr. 5	Amherst	16-5 W
Apr. 8	at Tufts	ppd
Apr. 12	at Bowdoin	15-7 W
Apr. 16	at Vermont	19-6 W
Apr. 19	Trinity	18-4 W
Apr. 23	at Williams	4:15pm
Apr. 26	Bates	11:00am
Apr. 27	NESCAC First Round	TBA
May 3	NESCAC Semifinals	TBA
May 4	NESCAC Finals	TBA

Men's Tennis

Schedule (11-3)

Mar. 8	Skidmore	7-0 W
Mar. 8	Union	7-0 W
Mar. 12	Vermont	7-0 W
Mar. 22	California-Lutheran (Fla.)	4-3 L
Mar. 23	Chapman (Fla.)	7-0 W
Mar. 26	Vanguard (Fla.)	5-4 L
Mar. 27	Redlands (Fla.)	4-3 W
Mar. 28	Pomona-Pitzer (Fla.)	6-1 W
Apr. 2	at Dartmouth	6-1 L
Apr. 4	at Tufts	4-3 W
Apr. 9	Williams	6-1 W
Apr. 12	at Bowdoin	4-3 W
Apr. 13	at Bates	7-0 W
Apr. 19	at Amherst	7-0 W
Apr. 25-27	Host NESCAC Championship	TBA

Baseball

Schedule (11-4-1)

Mar. 23	M.I.T. (in Florida)	10-7 W
Mar. 23	Union (2-7's) (in Florida)	2-0 W, 14-3W
Mar. 24	U. of Chicago (in Florida)	7-5 L
Mar. 25	Colby (in Florida)	2-2 T
Mar. 25	Salisbury St. (in Florida)	10-2 L
Mar. 26	S. Maine (in Florida)	7-3 W
Mar. 28	Williams (9) (in Florida)	2-0 W
Mar. 29	Williams (7-9) (in Florida)	6-5 L, 9-7 W
Apr. 8	St. Michael's	ppd.
Apr. 9	at Colby-Sawyer	ppd.
Apr. 11	Hamilton (9)	7-6 W
Apr. 12	Hamilton (7-9)	8-7 W, 10-9 W
Apr. 18	Wesleyan (9)	6-5 W
Apr. 19	Wesleyan (7-9)	6-4 W, 12-9 W
Apr. 22	at Skidmore	4:00
Apr. 26	at Castleton (2-7's)	12/2:30
Apr. 27	at Trinity (2-7's)	12/2:30
Apr. 30	at St. Michael's	3:30
May 2	at Amherst	3:30
May 3	at Amherst (7-9)	1:00
May 4	Bowdoin (2-7's)	12:00
May 9-11	NESCAC Tournament	TBA

Softball

Schedule (14-7)

Mar. 24	S. Maine (in Florida)	4-1 L
Mar. 25	Hamline (in Florida)	10-9 L
Mar. 25	Lawrence (in Florida)	7-0 L
Mar. 26	N. Central College (in Fla.)	3-0 L
Mar. 27	Colby (DH) (in Fla.)	1-0 W, 7-5 W
Mar. 28	Union (in Florida)	8-0 L
Mar. 29	Thomas (in Florida)	10-4 W
Mar. 29	Nova Southeastern (in Fla.)	4-0 L
Apr. 5	Williams (DH)	8-7 W, 11-5 L
Apr. 9	Lyndon (DH)	16-4 W, 9-0 W
Apr. 12	at Wesleyan (DH)	12-2 W, 2-1 W
Apr. 15	Bates (DH)	6-1 W, 6-2 W
Apr. 17	at Castleton (DH)	10-6 W, 4-1 W
Apr. 19	Amherst (DH)	2-1 W, 2-0 W
Apr. 22	at St. Lawrence (DH)	3:30pm
Apr. 24	Green Mountain	4:00pm
Apr. 26	at Hamilton (DH)	1:00pm
Apr. 30	at Norwich (DH)	3:00pm
May 2-4	NESCAC Tournament	TBA

Women's Tennis

Schedule (5-2)

Mar. 23	Kalamazoo (in Florida)	7-2 W
Mar. 24	Salisbury (Fla.)	5-4 W
Mar. 25	St. Thomas (Fla.)	5-4 L
Mar. 26	Luther (Fla.)	7-2 W
Mar. 27	Colby (Fla.)	6-3 W
Apr. 4-6	Middlebury Invitational	No Team Scores
Apr. 12	at Amherst	7-2 L
Apr. 13	at Connecticut College	8-1 W
Apr. 18-20	NESCAC Champ. -Williams	Tied 6th
Apr. 27	Bowdoin	10:00am

Neil &
Otto's
pizza
Late-Night Special!!!
-stuck in the library studying?
-too cold to walk to the Grille?
-not in any condition to get off the couch?
Call Neil & Otto's and get a 16 " large cheese pizza for only
$7.99*
Call 388-6774 or 388-6776
We deliver right to your door
VISA/MC gladly accepted
Valid from 10 PM until 1 AM every night
*tax, delivery and toppings extra, must mention special when ordering.

Cheerleading Squad Places Second in Local Competition

With Only Five Weeks to Prepare, Team Comes Together for Cheer and Dance Challenge

By Gillian Wood
Contributing Writer

When one thinks of cheerleading, young girls with curly hair and lots of make-up in short skirts may come to mind. One never imagines the bruises, black eyes, nail scratches, broken noses and bruised ribs, that go on behind the scenes. When I walked into my first cheer competition this spring, I felt like I had stepped onto the set of "Bring It On."

It was a completely different world. But after the initial shock of the aesthetics of cheerleading, I saw other teams practicing their stunts and gymnastics which immediately illuminated the athleticism, strength and courage intrinsic to the sport.

On March 22, at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., the Middlebury cheerleading team walked away with a second place trophy out of six teams at the New England Cheer and Dance Challenge.

The team consists of 10 competitive members: Mark Danbe '03, Naomi Andrews '03, Anna Rita Pergolizzi '04, Laurie Wollin '05, O'Neil Walker '05, Grace Hardy '03, Melissa Crabb '05, Gillian Wood '03, Katie Perekslis '06 and Sarah Peters '03 and Head Coach Pam Moser.

The competitive team was founded last year by Pergolizzi and gained experience through performing in McCullough shows, commons picnics and sporting events. This spring was its first season of competition.

> [The routine was] simple but solid and gave us the foundation for our cheer team. Each team member was striding to hit her or her part and do the best he or she could.
>
> —Head Coach Pam Moser

The New England Cheer and Dance Challenge was only its second competitive experience as a team, and it performed nearly flawlessly, sticking every stunt and tumbling pass. Only the week before, it had mastered the back-tuck basket-toss, in which a base of three or four people toss a flyer, who then does a back flip and comes down in the others' arms. All three of these components flew with height, confidence, and grace.

Vlad Lodoaba

The new cheerleading squad in practice. The team was a success at a competition in Springfield, Mass, in March.

At the competition, there were six small co-ed college teams, including Anna Maria College, St. Anselms College, Worcester State, St. Josephs College and York University of Canada. The first place finishers received a total of 230.5 out of 300 points. Middlebury College came in second with a score of 212.5. Three judges scored the schools on five different categories: communication, fundamental skills, group techniques, overall effect and sportsmanship. Middlebury's strengths were its dancing and its three-level stunts. The team feels it needs better timing of its jumps and louder cheering.

Moser said this routine was "simple but solid, and gave us the foundation for our cheer team." Three-fourths of the team had no cheer experience and with only five weeks to perform, the team did a great job coming together and letting its talents shine. Moser said, "Each team member was striding to hit his or her part and do the best he or she could." Each individual was on target and together they lit up the competition floor.

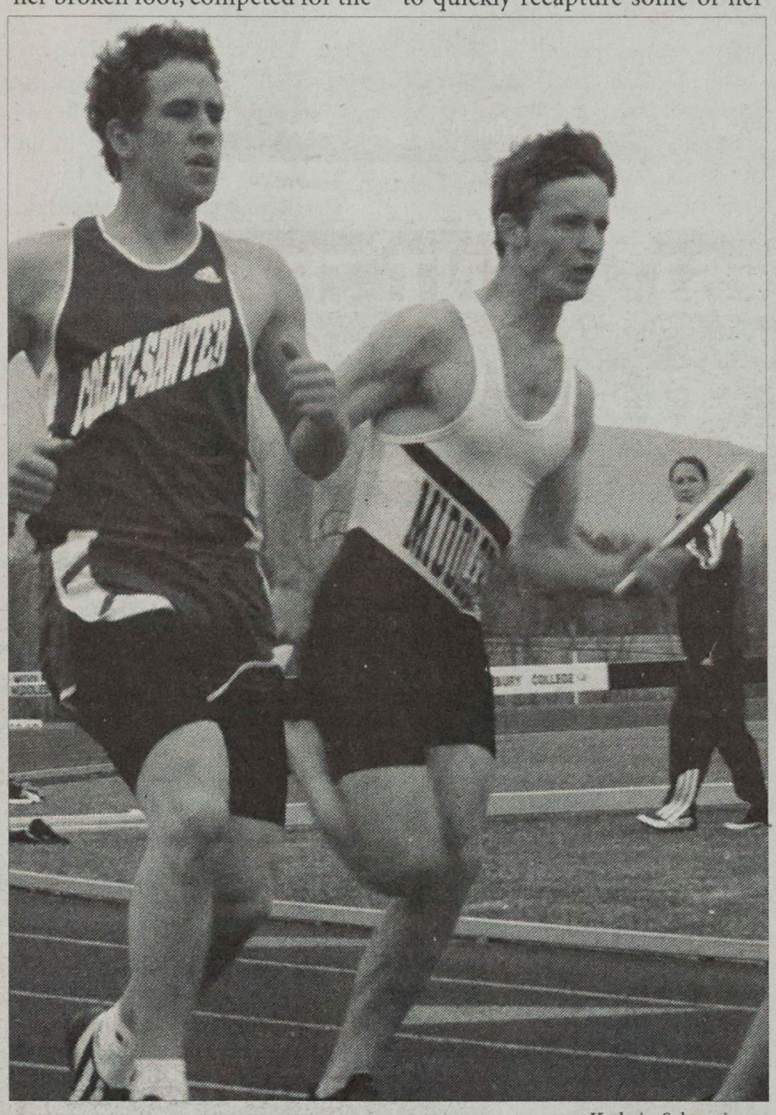
Track Postseason Begins Saturday

(continued from page 32)

and Porter to carry. Women's captains Michela Adrian '03 and Adri Logalbo '03 made successful returns to the track last week.

On Tuesday, Logalbo, fresh off the mend of her broken foot, competed for the first time since the indoor season in the 800-meter run. She placed third with a time of 2:23.58, behind winner Jess Manzer '05 and runner-up Porter. Logalbo hopes to quickly recapture some of her trademark-earning NESCAC championship form from last year, where she placed second.

> We're very glad to have our captains back. They'll provide some sure points at NESCACs.
>
> —Head Coach Martin Beatty



Kathrin Schwesinger

Sprinter Liam Aiello '05 carries the baton on the third leg of the men's 4x100 meter relay which finished in time for NESCAC qualification.

Adrian's comeback brought her close to a national provisional qualifying time. She began regular jogging last week after a couple of months of cross training, but her lack of substantial running or track work did not seem to hinder her. Adrian ran an 18:04 in the 5,000-meter run on Saturday, placing first and coming within nine seconds of the provisional mark for NCAAs.

"We're very glad to have our captains back," said Beatty. "They'll provide some sure points at NESCACs."

Nick Digani '05, after a breakthrough week, is poised to place well at NESCACs. Beatty thinks he may even have a shot at the 1,500-meter school record.

"With Nick having run a 4:03 on Saturday, he is only three seconds from the record. And, although three seconds in the 1,500 may be a lot, the high caliber of competition may carry him to a fast time."

Kristoph Becker '06 cemented a number one seed at NESCACs, and also a high seed at NCAAs, with his throw of 193'06" of the javelin on Saturday.

Beatty said that Liam Aiello '05 and Mike DeLeo '03.5, who are already performing great, may still have to step it up another notch due to the questionable status of Greg Lazarus '06. Lazarus pulled his hamstring coming out of the blocks of the 200-meter run on Saturday, but Beatty is optimistic about his recovery.

Reaching to the Top

Julia Randall

En route to a solid victory, *Suzie Moses '05 and the rest of the women's rugby club push to win the ball in Saturday's match.*

Upcoming Event:
Film on Peter Kohn
Presented in
Dana Auditorium
Saturday, April 26

Sweep of Wesleyan Puts Baseball Into Second Place

Close Victories Again the Theme for Panthers, Now on Six-Game Winning Streak

By Jake Heller
Staff Writer

Nothing builds confidence like a winning streak. After six straight victories the Middlebury baseball team is loaded with confidence. Coming off a sweep of Hamilton, Middlebury maintained its high level of play by defeating a veteran Wesleyan team in three close games: 6-5, 6-4, 12-9.

Baseball

Saturday, April 19th

Middlebury	6
Wesleyan	5

Saturday, April 19th

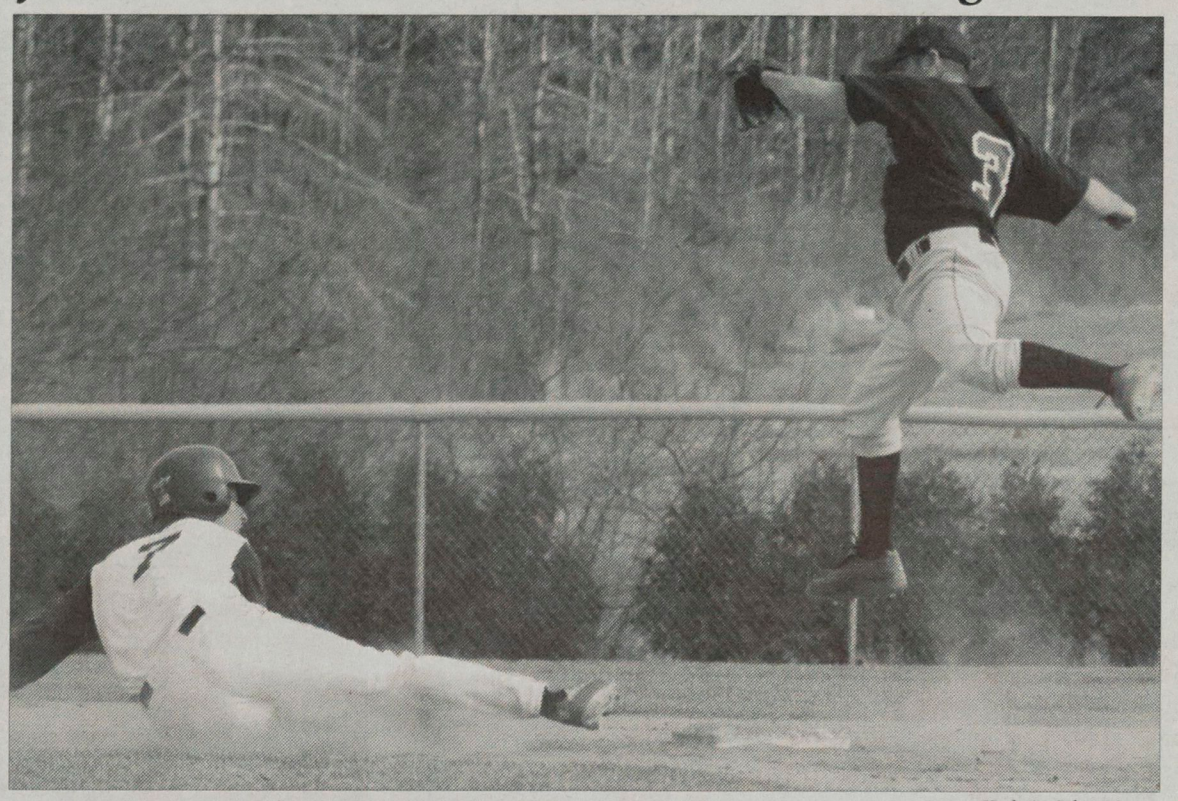
Middlebury	6
Wesleyan	4

Against Hamilton, the Panthers relied on their bullpen to pick up the wins but last weekend taking on Wesleyan the starting pitchers carried the load. In the first game Russ Budnick '05 pitched a complete game, scattering eight hits and giving up only three ERA. Catcher Andrew Pavoni '06 had a stellar game behind the plate, throwing out three runners attempting to steal including the potential tying run in the last inning. Third basemen Jim Muhlfeld '04 led the way offensively with RBI singles in the sixth and seventh innings.

> Against a veteran team like Wesleyan it is important for the starters to hold them for a few innings. Our starters did more than that and there was never any doubt we were going to win even when we gave up some early runs.
>
> —Dave Irwin '05

The second game of the series featured another solid start by Tyler Bak '06, who pitched a complete game and recorded seven strikeouts. Jake Armstrong '04 had a clutch two-run double in the bottom of the sixth inning, adding to his team leading total of 16 RBI this season. Game three of the series was critical for Wesleyan if they wanted to remain above .500 and they jumped on Middlebury with a run in the first inning. Despite giving up several runs early on, Middlebury kept hitting and outlasted Wesleyan 12-9. Abe Streep '04 gave Middlebury the lead with an RBI single in the seventh and Armstrong followed him with two-run single to break the game open. Alex Casnocha '06 picked up his second relief win of the season. With the win Middlebury improved to 7-2 in NESCAC play and they currently lead the NESCAC West Division.

From the beginning of this season Coach Bob Smith has looked for consistency from his starting pitching and against Wesleyan he got just that. The ability of the starters to take pressure off the bullpen is critical for a team to succeed late in the season.



Kathrin Schwesinger

Senior outfielder Denny Smith, always a menace on the basepaths, slides back into second, causing an error from the Wesleyan defense. The Panthers took three off the Cardinals this weekend at home.

Dave Irwin '05 explains why this is crucial to a team striving for the playoffs: "Against a veteran team like Wesleyan it is important for the starters to hold them for a few innings. Our starters did more than that and there was never any doubt we were going to win even when we gave up some early runs. Anytime our starters throw back to back complete game wins it is a tremendous confidence boost for the team."

The Panthers are ready to make their playoff drive over the last two weeks of the season before a critical final series with division rival Amherst. Middlebury will still get a shot to continue their winning ways this weekend on the road against Castleton and Trinity. The two teams will both bring solid competition for doubleheaders against Middlebury to try and stop the streaking Panthers.

After winning six straight games to leave their record at 11-4-1 the Panthers are not losing sleep over the streak and they will not take a loss too hard.

Second basemen Dave Riester '05 puts the streak in perspective: "It's baseball. Winning streaks do not last the entire season but when they end you can't worry about it. If we lose it will not be for a lack of effort but you have to blame it on something."

Softball Earns Top Spot in League Standings

(continued from page 32)

10-6 victory. Lauren Bowe '04 pitched 3 1/3 innings before Megan McCarthy '05 relieved her to earn the win for a personal 3-3 record.

In the next contest, the Spartans recorded the first run of the game in the bottom of the first inning and held the Panthers scoreless until the top of the third. However, Middlebury did not allow Castleton any more room to breathe. In what proved to be a much closer battle, Middlebury pulled ahead by one run in the top of the fifth before sealing the 4-1 win with two more wins in the seventh. Using strong defense, the Panthers registered 12 hits to their opponents' six. Lauren Guza '05, Kathryn Hurd '06 and Freyer all went 3-4 (.750) at the plate and Andrea Russo '03 pitched the entire game to record her fifth win of the season.

Going into Saturday's big NESCAC showdown with top-ranked Amherst, Head Coach Diane Boettcher felt her team was feeling the "leadership and confidence," as well as "a 'find a way to win' mentality" that had earned it eight straight wins. Sure enough, as both games of the doubleheader proved to be highly intense, the Panthers did find a way to win.

"McCarthy was very composed and went the distance," Boettcher said of her pitcher that threw for both games. "We had three goals, one of which was to get the pitchers in the 'K zone,' one was to unload hits off the Amherst pitcher and one was to be spot-on fielding bunts. Lauren Battaglia '06 denied them two bunts immediately. Guza and Hurd had big bats right in a row. Katie Harrison '05.5 had a surprise bunt with two outs for an RBI. It was magical," Boettcher explained of the complete team effort it took to topple the Lord Jeffs.

In the first of the two games, Middlebury held Amherst scoreless until the seventh inning, when the Lord Jeffs could only manage one run. Meanwhile, in the bottom of the first, with runners on second and third, a single by Ladd turned into an RBI as Guza crossed the plate. In the fifth inning, Guza again scored after reaching third on a triple. Hurd sent her home with a single. Along with her fourth win of the season, McCarthy recorded six strikeouts against the Lord Jeffs and the Panthers were able to make the most of it, leaving with a 2-1 win.

The second game was almost as close. This time, however, the Panthers completely stopped Amherst, holding it scoreless for a 2-0 victory, with runs coming in the first and sixth innings. In the first inning, after a Hurd triple, both Freyer and Ladd were walked, loading the bases. Harrison's single RBI sent Hurd over the plate for the first run. After five scoreless innings, the Panthers struck again. On a sacrifice bunt by Slack, Micheala George '04 advanced to second and then went home on an ensuing Guza double. McCarthy pitched another full game, only allowing two hits and striking out four players.

The Panthers will look to continue their streak even further when they host Green Mountain on Thursday. In their last two NESCAC games of the regular season, the Panthers will travel to Hamilton on Saturday.

"Our eye is on a possible NESCAC bid now, where before it was merely on stealing away a few key games. The team now has an 'expect to win' mentality. We look at the opponents one at a time," Boettcher said of the team's newfound glory.

Ruggers Win Second at Nationals

(continued from page 32)

sive pressure, managed a truly memorable second half goal line defensive stand, stopping the Bears from five meters out for some 10 minutes. The tide of the match turned when senior Mark Danbe was assessed a costly 10 minute trip to the sin bin in the 50th minute for what the match officials ruled was a high tackle. The Bears scored two unanswered tries and Middlebury was unable to recover, falling in bitter fashion 24-19.

The Panthers had no time to lick their wounds, however, with a consolation match against host school Sam Houston State the next day. "We were pretty discouraged," said Herter, "but we didn't come all the way down to Texas to leave without winning." Middlebury took out its frustrations on the BearKats, showing off the form that made them number five in the country on route to a thorough 26-0 defeat of their opponents. Captain Jody Kramer '03 was the offensive star in the game, notching two tries. "We hadn't worked hard all fall and spring to come away with two losses," said Danielides. "On our team pride means a lot."

Funded in part by a federal grant from Title X.
I had unprotected sex last night.
Is there something I can do about it now?
YES.
EC. EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION.
Emergency Contraception can prevent pregnancy up to 5 days after sex. And sooner is better, so don't wait.
Planned Parenthood®
of Northern New England
800.230.PLAN | www.ppnne.org

Lax Looking For League Perfection

By David Freedman
Staff Writer

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team earned its sixth straight win on Saturday with an 18-7 rout of Trinity College at Robin L. Sheppard Field.

Coming off a week with stiff competition, Middlebury had previously relied on the offensive starters for point production. The Bantams, however, experienced the team's true depth as 14 different players recorded a goal on the day.

Men's Lacrosse

Saturday, April 19th

Middlebury	18
Trinity	7

With the game tied at 2-2 after one quarter, goalie Eric Krieger '04 would allow only one more goal in the second quarter while making nine solid saves in one half of play.

Krieger's play in net along with another strong effort on defense by starters Caleb Holmes '03, John West '04 and Ed Brown '04 and long stick middies Tom O'Connor '04 and Will Rawson '05, who split starting duties, allowed the Panthers to go on an eight-goal run to put the game away.

"The defense played great today," said Head Coach Erin Quinn, pointing to the depth of the team defense as a key to the team's success. "There is no one particular guy making plays."

Outside of the starters, Quinn credited the athleticism of Brian Phinney '05 and Gabe Wood '06, the first and most often used substitutes in the defensive rotation, for their defensive efforts as well. "Phinney has made a significant contribution to the defense since rejoining us after the hockey season. He adds depth and athleticism. Wood has been playing well, too, contributing another great athlete to the mix."

> Playing well against Bates and Williams makes this week important for two reasons. We want to end the regular season on a high note, while playing two complete games in preparation for the playoffs.
>
> —Captain Chris Davis '03

Captain Mike Frissora '03 and middie Greg Bastis '04 took advantage of Middlebury's crisp ball movement in the second and third quarters to notch two goals apiece. First-year J.P. Coviello added to the Panther lead in the fourth quarter with two quick goals of his own, the first of his collegiate career. Brian Gault '03 netted two goals on the day as well.

In the second half, with the game in hand, back-up goalie Ned Courtemanche '05 came in to relieve Krieger. Courtemanche made five saves in the second half while shutting Trinity out in the third quarter. Meanwhile, Courtemanche's work in net gave the Panthers more possessions to extend their lead. The Panthers would score five unanswered goals and most of the starters were soon substituted off the field.

Middlebury will play Williams on Wednesday and will go up against Bates on Saturday for the team's two remaining regular season games. With a 7-0 record in New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC), Middlebury is looking to host its third straight conference tournament.

"Playing well against Bates and Williams makes this week important for two reasons," Captain Chris Davis '03 points out that the team wants "to end the regular season on a high note, while playing two complete games in preparation for the playoffs."

Schuyler Van Horn

Attacker Mike Seraceni '04 prepares to fire a shot on net in the Panthers' win over Bowdoin earlier this season.

Tough Draw Curses Panthers to Sixth in NESCAC Tourney

By Daniel Shea
Staff Writer

Middlebury students love to hate their counterparts down at Williams College. It's a phenomenon that leaves many outsiders a bit confused, given the not insignificant distance that separates the two schools and the existence of a more proximate (and more bitter) rival to Williams in Amherst College.

Strangely, then, to the Middlebury student, when the women's tennis team headed down to Williams College last weekend for the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championships, no Friday drivers in Massachusetts' northwest corner would have heard chants of "Williams sucks!" emanating from their Vermont license-plated van. This makes some sense — such statements about the defending NCAA champion would have the inescapable flavor of sour grapes. Rather, the women saved their ambition for more realistic rivals, namely Tufts University and Bowdoin and Colby Colleges.

> We all hit tough seeds in the second round. I was satisfied with everyone's playing, but, still, we could've seized a few more chances.
>
> —Sandy Spring '04

Yet Middlebury came home from the 11-school tournament with a sixth place ribbon, one which Wesleyan University also wore, while Tufts, Bowdoin and Colby respectively walked away with third, fourth and fifth prizes. The reason Middlebury fell behind their closest opponents, including one (Colby) who they have beaten this year? When asked, junior Co-captain Sandy Spring blamed not herself or her teammates, but that root of unproductive anger, dumb luck. Spring explained, "We all hit tough seeds in the second round. I was satisfied with everyone's playing, but, still, we could've seized a few more chances."

As every one of those missed opportunities appeared in a match either against Amherst, Williams or Tufts, all of which rank within the top 10 teams nationally, Spring had reason to rue the Middlebury draws: if Bowdoin and Colby did make better use of their chances, it was because their chances were, well, easier to use.

A quick look at the numbers that Bowdoin and Colby had a somewhat unfair leg up over Middlebury: whereas all of the eight Panther singles players lost to a Lady Jeff, Eph or Jumbo (seven of these losses in the second round), and three of the four Midd doubles teams fell in the second round to the self-same opponents, both Bowdoin and Colby had teams from outside that bloc to thank for three of the four second-round wins that each ratcheted.

It doesn't take a statistician's eye to note that Middlebury faced greater odds than Bowdoin and Colby. The other junior Co-captain, Jena Siegel, also pointed an accusatory finger at blind fate, but then added, "Most matches were close . . . we did show that we can play anyone in Division III."

Though speaking about her entire team, in the main it was Siegel herself who proved this assertion well-founded. Siegel and partner Nina Popel '04 beat the second-seeded #2 doubles team of Barclay Gang and Neda Pisheva, the same two Tufts girls who won the #1 doubles contest at last fortnight's Middlebury Invitational.

Squaring off against Amherst's Roopali Agarwal and Hadley Miller in the semi-finals, the Popel-Siegel duo made it clear that they intended to unseat their surprised foes.

Forcing a match point with a score of 7-4, the Middlebury two heeded the cheers of their own teammates as well as those of the Tufts team, who, in a move indicative of the level of familiarity that exists between the Middlebury players and their most even-ly-matched opponents, stayed to root for Popel and Siegel. To the dismay of Panther and Jumbo alike, though, the Amherst team was able to mount a comeback and make the trip to the final round. "It was exciting," Spring said of the contest. "But after Nina and Jena's win, we wanted another."

For one last time this season, Spring knows that she'll have another week to get the victory she wants.

Bowdoin will travel east to the Proctor courts this weekend to play the Panthers in the spring's final regular match. Cocksure as ever, the Middlebury crew aims to show Bowdoin that the NESCAC results are part and parcel with the NESCAC draw.

Again reminding the dyed-in-the-Panther-blue-wool Williams-hater how tight Middlebury's rivalry with Bowdoin, Tufts and Colby is, Siegel introduced a factor beyond simple NESCAC retribution to the mix: "We haven't played Bowdoin in a dual match since fall of 2001. They won then. Now we're looking for revenge."

Don't Miss...

Men's Tennis: Hosting NESCACs

Friday-Sunday, April 25-27

What to Watch in Middlebury Sports

The Middlebury men's tennis team is having its most exciting season in years, and fans have a chance to watch the squad in action this weekend in the NESCAC Championship tournament. With a host of talented first-years and sophomores, the team is sure to be good for years to come, but having not dropped a NESCAC match this season, the Panthers will certainly be hoping to live up to their potential now.

Standing in the team's way is perennial powerhouse Williams College, who has won the last two national titles and the last 10 NESCAC Championships. The Panthers thrashed the Ephs 6-1 earlier in the season, but Williams will certainly be trying to spoil the Panthers on their own courts. Also not to be overlooked are Bowdoin and Tufts, two teams that the Panthers beat 4-3 in the regular season. If the team is able to continue their run of good form, a new NESCAC Champion could be in our presence.

Tennis Thrashes Amherst, Takes Momentum to NESCACs

By Dave Lindholm
Sports Editor

For perhaps the first time in history, the Middlebury men's tennis squad will be the team to beat at the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) championships this weekend. The Panthers have won each of their last five matches, all against NESCAC opposition, including some of the nation's toughest teams in Williams, Bowdoin and Tufts. And in hosting the championship tournament, the Panthers are primed to wrest the NESCAC title away from Williams, the ten-time defending league champions.

"We have a lot of tough tennis ahead of us, so we're going to have to play even stronger than we have been playing," said Nate Edmunds '06. Edmunds, one of three first-years in the top six, is one of the reason's for the team's charge to the top of the league. The trio of rookies, which includes Edmunds at number two, Brian Waldron at three and Ari Beilin at four, have lost only once in 15 NESCAC matches played.

The team closed out the regular season this past weekend with a 7-0 drubbing of host Amherst College on Saturday, a win which solidified Middlebury's top ranking heading into the NESCAC tournament. Once again, the first-year trio dominated, as did top player Justin Ingoglia '05, co-captain Steve Hulce '03 at number five, and first-year Jeff Oldenburg, getting his first action of the season in the league.

The Panthers dominated the match from the outset, with five of the six singles matches being decided in two games. Middlebury was almost as efficient in doubles play, winning two of the three matches. The pairing of captains Hulce and Stu Brown '04, quickly becoming a force at the top doubles spot, won easily, as did Waldron and Edmunds. The win will give the Panthers even more momentum headed into the NESCAC tournament.

Further on the horizon for Middlebury is the NCAA championships, a single-elimination tournament that will surely feature the Panthers, as well as other NESCAC teams. Last year, Middlebury was knocked out of the NCAAs with a heartbreaking loss to Bowdoin. Though the Panthers avenged that loss in the regular seasson earlier this year, the team will surely feel the need to improve upon last year's NCAA showing.

With regards to the postseason, Edmunds said, "I think hosting the NESCAC tournament will help us, especially if we get the support we had when we played Williams. Then we're into NCAAs, where anything can happen. I think if we play our best we can accomplish quite a bit, though."

The tournament begins on Friday, and will continue through Sunday. Though the team has not dropped a NESCAC match this season, it is careful not to get overwhelmed by its sudden "favorite" status at the tournament.

"Both Tufts and Bowdoin nearly beat us: those wins came down to the third set on one person's court," said Ingoglia. "So I think our goals are to stay focused for every match. There is still a lot of tennis to be played, and won."

File Photo/Louisa Conrad
Co-captains Steve Hulce '03 (left) and Stu Brown '04 are a doubles pairing that are helping lead the Panthers.

Women's Lax Continues to Roll, Ephs Next

By Zach Foster
Staff Writer

Chalk up two more convincing victories for the Middlebury women's lacrosse as they continue to make opponents look silly in the wake of their superiority. The two most recent thumpings, which pushed the Panther winning streak to a remarkable 44 games, came against in-state nemesis, the University of Vermont, and New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) foe, Trinity.

The first game took place in Burlington, Vt. From the beginning, it was clear that Middlebury was intent on asserting their dominance concerning who was indeed Vermont's best team. Char Glessner '03.5, who was recently named NESCAC Player of the Week for the second time this season, began the scoring just under four minutes into the game. On the ensuing possession, Glessner found teammate Meg Bonney '03 to make it a 2-0 lead. Bonney continued the pressure with another tally, followed by consecutive Middlebury goals from Ali Perencevich '06, Nuala O'Donohoe '04 and Elizabeth Renehan '06 to make it 6-0.

Women's Lacrosse

Wednesday, April 16th

Middlebury	19
University of Vermont	6

Saturday, April 19th

Trinity	4
Middlebury	18

The Catamounts did not find the net until midway through the first half, when they scored on a free position shot. After this spark of hope, the Middlebury attack moved into full throttle pressure. The Panthers scored seven more times in the half, led by three more from Glessner to take a commanding 13-2 advantage at the half.

The second half was more of the same as Middlebury ran up five unanswered goals and never looked back. The Panther attack remained consistent, firing 35 shots on net compared to an anemic total of 10 from UVM. Glessner led the scoring efforts and ended the game with an impressive eight-point effort with five goals and three helpers. However, Glessner was not alone in the Middlebury onslaught. She was accompanied by nine other Panthers who found the net in the victory.

O'Donohoe recorded four goals, while Bonney and Perencevich had two apiece. Along with an unwavering Middlebury attack, the defensive zone also had an impressive performance. Most notably, said Coach Missy Foote, Michele Bergofsky '06 played stellar defense, picking up five ground balls.

Next up was Trinity, ranked 18th in the nation. The game was essentially over midway through the first half as the Panthers built an unmerciful 11-0 lead. Co-captain Kristin Hanley '03 started things off only 25 seconds into the contest with a goal that set the tone. Trinity was not able to get on the board until there was 23 seconds remaining in the half, a goal which followed five more Middlebury goals.

Said Co-captain Kate Perine '03, "Our first half showed some major improvement in our ability to pass the ball down the field and score quickly in transition." Coach Foote called the first half "nearly flawless".

While the second half was relatively quiet for both teams, one bright spot was the goaltending of Johanna Rosenfield '05, who made several key saves.

Glessner and Hanley, who had four goals apiece, led the scoring attack. They were accompanied by O'Donohoe and Bonney with matching hat tricks and Katie Simpson '03, who scored twice.

Most notable in the offensive effort was the unselfish play of Simpson, who assisted on five goals along with scoring two of her own. Also contributing to the rout was the unsung play of Caitlin McCormick '05, who, Foote said, "Played a beautiful game with quick precision passing and excellent checks." McCormick factored heavily into the success of the team's nationally-feared fast break, which according to Foote, "Worked perfectly several times with goals and assists from many different players."

The next test for the defending National Champions is undefeated Williams, ranked fifth in the nation. Middlebury will make the trip to Williamstown in a quest for a key win which would seal the number one seed in the NESCAC tournament as well as securing home-field advantage.

As the women prepare to battle their NESCAC rival in a potentially hostile environment, one can feel relatively confident that the Ephs will get all they can handle. The Middlebury squad currently averages a margin of victory of 13 goals that would make any purple cow quiver.

Kathrin Schwesinger
First-year middie Ali Perencevich carries the ball upfield during Saturday's 18-4 drubbing of NESCAC foe Trinity on the turf.

Sports Editor?
News Editor?
Photo Editor?

Editorial Board Applications
The Middlebury Campus
fall 2003
available beginning Sunday,
April 27

WITH THE ATHLETES . . . JODY KRAMER '03

By Andy Zimmermann
Senior Staff Writer

Name: Jody Kramer
Year: 2003
DOB: 11/16/80
Hometown: Piedmont, Calif.
Major: Neuroscience
Sports: Rugby
Honors: Backs captain

Jody Says: As a senior and captain, I take it upon myself to learn the little skills. I do more the passing, running, and tackling [than the scoring.]

Jody Kramer '03 will be one of only four starters on the rugby team to graduate this May. That means one of Middlebury's most successful intercollegiate athletic teams will continue its dominance yet it also means it will be losing a leader and one of its smartest and most accomplished players. How many blue-collar sports teams can claim their leader is a neuroscience major? Yet that is just what Kramer studies. He is the backs captain and assumes much of the leadership responsibilities when Head Coach Ward Patterson's attention is diverted elsewhere. He shares the captainship with Angus Birchall '03.5 who directs the forwards.

A mild-mannered Californian, Kramer started playing rugby two years into high school at the club level. "A lot of kids from my high school played," Kramer said of how he started. "I didn't play a spring sport so I gave it a shot." As a four-year player at Middlebury, Kramer is now one of the experienced ones, passing on what he knows just as others did for him. "As a senior and captain," he said, "I take it upon myself to help everybody learn the little skills." Kramer plays the outside center position as a back and is often involved directly or indirectly in tries, which is the rugby equivalent to football's touchdowns. "I do more the passing, running and the tackling," he said of his role.

The forwards, who are generally the bigger players, grind it out with the opposing team on restarts, which is called the scrum. For those of you who know some of the rugby forwards, people like Birchall, Timothy Tutsch '04 and Matthew Dragunat '03 are as imposing as any lineman on the football team. Yet Middlebury often finds itself undersized. "We're typically the smallest team on any field," mentioned Kramer. Such was the case in Saturday's USA Rugby Division II National Quarterfinal match up in Huntsville, Texas. Middlebury lost a tight game to a strong, physical University of Northern Colorado squad 24-19.

Yet Middlebury makes up for the size difference and then some. The Ruggers have been a perennial powerhouse in the Northeast territory and made a habit of qualifying for the Nationals, held every spring—an invitation made to only the nation's top eight teams. Scores against regional opponents range from 14-8 in a tight match against the Coast Guard Academy to 57-0 against Johnson State. Last season the team traveled to Arkansas and despite a burden of injuries, came away with fifth in the nation. They lost to the eventual national champion then, Stanford University, which made the jump to Division I this year. Northern Colorado currently has a good chance to become national champion, which would mean Middlebury would have lost to the nation's two strongest teams in consecutive years. As lucky as the T-Wolves facing the Lakers in their first home playoff series in years.

The ingredients are many, yet the result is simple—the Middlebury Rugby Club is year in and year out one of the school's most competitive teams. "I think our coach is real knowledgeable and puts a lot of effort in," Kramer said, identifying the ingredients of success. "We've got a lot of international students who've played the game before and everybody helps out in coaching and organizing."

> "A lot of my friends from high school played [rugby]. I didn't play a spring sport so I gave it a shot.
>
> — Jody Kramer '03

"We have a far better coach than any of the teams we faced in the tournament," said forward Francis Connolly '03.5 of Ward Patterson, who balances coaching duties with a second job to make ends meet. "We're lucky to have a coach like Ward," added Kramer.

International students like Epeli Rokotuiveikau '04 and Robert Ngetha Waithaka '04 have brought athleticism and experience to the team and helped elevate its play.

There also is another explanation for the team's success. They are all just good players. Despite facing bigger opponents Middlebury embodies the smart, composed play that has come to describe Kramer's game. "If you know the skills, which is where we excel as a team," Kramer said. "with smart decisions and quickness, you can have an advantage over bigger, stronger guys." Such an advantage translated to a 26-0 romp of Sam Houston State, the tournament's host and eighth seeded team, in a consolation game on Sunday.

Kramer scored two tries with first-year Luke Hammock added another giving Middlebury a commanding lead. Ben Herter '03.5 added another and the Panthers had what USArugby.org deemed a "sound defeat" of Sam Houston.

With all the positives the team must also face a number of adverse conditions, which has only made them tougher. Heading into Nationals, Middlebury had only about a week worth of meaningful practice time outside. The bulk of its competitive season takes place in the fall, essentially creating two smaller seasons, while teams in other regions are able to play exclusively in the spring. Entering the Nationals means Middlebury often plays teams on a roll, so to speak, having won recently to earn a trip to the tournament.

The ruggers, being a club team, must raise money in order to attend Nationals since USA Rugby, the sport's governing body, does not pick up travel and lodging expenses as the NCAA does in similar situations. "A ball park figure of $15,000," said Kramer of the money that had to be raised in order to send the team to Texas this year. That money, which we know does not grow on trees, was raised through numerous events the rugby team organized. A raffle, a semi-formal dance at an off-campus house and cleanup duty after some of the hockey games at Kenyon Arena are all ways the players helped raise enough money for the opportunity to compete this spring. Add into the mix that the team has difficulty procuring a locker room amidst all the spring sports chaos and one begins to see what hills the ruggers have had to climb to get this far.

Kramer—better known by teammates as "the Claw" not because he is a member of the X-Men but because he has had multiple bone fractures in the hand/arm area—has taken all this in stride.

After graduation he hopes to move to Montana and do some other activities he loves like snowboarding and mountain biking. His long-term plans include med school, for which he will take the MCATs this Saturday.

As for rugby after Middlebury, he remains optimistic: "There are club teams out there and that is probably a possibility if I can fit it into my schedule."

Courtesy

The Middlebury men's rugby club prepares for every match with a chant borrowed from the New Zealand All-Blacks, used both to focus the team and intimidate the opponent.

ANGRY PETER

By Peter Yordán
Sports Editor

Like the seasonal blight of mosquitos or the fresh coat of manure farmers spread across their fields, the oppressive stench of Red Sox mania descends annually upon Middlebury just as spring starts to win back its rightful title to the month of April. There is no greater bane upon the Middlebury sports landscape than the Red Sox flock. Once upon a time, I thought Yankees fans to be the worst fans in baseball, especially after spending the Subway Series hearing from female pinstripers the many virtues of Derek Jeter's butt. Three years in Middlebury, however, have taught me to appreciate the truly scarred perverseness that dominates the twisted psyche of a Red Sox fan.

You see, a Red Sox fan wants your sympathy and your disdain. He or she really wants you to bring up '86 and Bucky Dent and Babe Ruth, despite whatever protestations he or she may raise. They love losing horribly time after time, they need it. That hat they wear is a red badge of courage, an open wound they let fester for all to see. They are like Shias, forever flailing themselves in public for failing their own personal Alis—Yaz, Hendu, Nomar, whomever. "Pity me, admire my courage to root for the Sox," they say. "I'm so brave. I know they'll let me down somehow, but I keep coming back, I'm a true fan."

Dan Duquette's recent appearance on campus once again underscored this painful phenomenon. The question and answer session following his speech allowed the Red Sox faithful in attendance to join in the ritual group flagellation that always happens when Sox fans congregate.

"This is the year," they say, but they don't believe or even want it to be so. What would the Red Sox nation do without the misery that fuels the masochism upon which Boston is based? All the pity and derision from other fans around the country would evaporate. Wouldn't the city just implode? They want people to alternately mock and feel sorry for them so their lives can feel like some grand Shakespearean tragedy (Hamlet, Prince of Fenway). They want you to talk about 1918, while ignoring that Cubs fans (97 years and counting) placidly sitting in the next booth, relaxed, patient and sane. A World Series win at Wrigley would bring such true joy to Chicago, but they never cry out about their suffering for all to see. They hide it deep inside, never blaming some curse or some New Yorker or feeling sorry for themselves. Unfortunately the same can't be said for those mired in the shadow of the Green Monster.

McCarthy Leads Softball to Upset Wins

By Kate Nerenberg
Sports Editor

This past week, the Middlebury softball team continued to turn away opponents on its way to a number one ranking in the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) West division. The team is now 14-7 overall, boasting a school-record number of

Softball

Saturday, April 19th

Amherst	1
Middlebury	2

Saturday, April 19th

Amherst	0
Middlebury	2

wins, and has extended its red-hot winning streak to 10 games with two victories over both Castleton and Amherst.

On Thursday, the Panthers traveled to Castleton where they continued their extraordinary hitting powers and played off the confidence of an unbeaten past week. The first game of the doubleheader was a true team effort, as six different players connected at the plate twice. Christina Freyer '04 recorded three RBI while Lindsay Ladd '03 and Co-captain Kelly Slack '03 chipped in with two RBI apiece. Adding to her impressive numbers from last week, Ladd again pounded away at the plate, resulting in the team's only homer of the week.

Although the Panthers jumped out and scored two runs right away in the top of the first inning, the Spartans fought back and tied the game at six in the fourth. After two scoreless innings, Middlebury broke out with a huge four-run seventh inning to take home the

Kathrin Schwesinger

(see Softball, page 28) Megan McCarthy '05 pitched 14 innings of one-run ball as the Panthers beat Amherst twice on Saturday.

Track Shines in Final Meets Before NESCACs

By Erich Kahner
Staff Writer

The Middlebury track and field teams ended the pre-championship season with two home meets last week at Dragone Field. The meets, one on Tuesday and the other on Saturday, brought light competition from surrounding colleges, leaving Middlebury athletes to compete mostly against each other in many events. The comfort brought by the accompanying Panther blue-and-white did little to dull Middlebury's competitive edge.

First-year Whitney Creed highlighted Tuesday's performers. She set personal records in the javelin, the hammer throw and the shot put. The latter record was also a school record, set with a victorious put of 38'4.75". Creed's fellow thrower Jenny March '04 qualified provisionally for the NCAA championships in the hammer with a throw 153'.

Kevin Bright '06 also had a great week. Bright busted out a 50.07 second 400-meter dash in his victory in that event on Tuesday. His time, according to Head Coach Martin Beatty, is likely to land him a first place seed at next weekend's New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) championships, held on Saturday at Williams. Taking into consideration Bright's already impressive track season, Beatty assigns Bright a heavy responsibility for next week's meet.

"Kevin is going to be a real workhorse for the team at NESCACs. He'll probably end up participating in six events."

Beatty did not hesitate to mention Maryanne Porter '04 as the female counterpart to Bright. Porter, who has already qualified for the NCAA championships in the 400-meter hurdles, won a few races at that distance last week in preparation for NESCACs. Like Bright, she will be competing in several events.

"The team really has two workhorses: Kevin and Porter," added Beatty. "We're going to lean on both of them pretty heavily this weekend."

Beatty is not exaggerating. The NESCAC championships, historically a two-day event, has been condensed into a one-day affair, forcing Bright and Porter to compete several times in only a few hours.

The return of some key athletes during the past week, along with some optimistic performances by others, should make for a less daunting load for Bright

(see Track, page 27)

Kathrin Schwesinger

Several Middlebury runners were in the field of the 1500 meter run on Saturday at Dragone Field.

Rugby Falls Just Short at Nationals

By Peter Yordán
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's rugby team roused itself out of its hibernation from this year's harsh and extended Vermont winter for its one brief moment in the spring sun, traveling to Texas for the NCAA Division II National Championship tournament. The Panthers, though valiant in their struggles to overcome the limits imposed on them by tough weather conditions this season, fell in a heated first round match to the University of Northern Colorado, 24-19 before recovering for a 26-0 victory in their consolation match.

Middlebury traveled to Sam Houston State University for Nationals looking to avenge last year's tough quarterfinal loss to eventual champions Stanford. The team had managed an impressive undefeated fall season, riding its superior depth and fitness to its second consecutive Northeast Territory championship.

Mother Nature and Old Man Winter, however, conspired to do what no fall opponent could — take the Panthers out of their game. Like most spring teams, the Panthers found themselves inside, staring out at their snowy fields for most of the season. The team was forced to content themselves with scaled-down, non-contact practices for all but the last week of their preseason while most of its future opponents around the country were out playing a full spring season. "Playing indoors is tough because you're not allowed to tackle," said Ben Herter '04. "We were well conditioned, but we just didn't have the physicality aspect we needed." The team made do as best they could, with regular weight-training and conditioning work often rousing themselves long before the sun came up in an effort to get out and work. "If it wasn't 6:00 a.m. practices because the fields were full, it was snow," said Philippe Danielides '04 of his team's frustrations. "You can practice as much as you can, but until you get out there and play you can't get ready for a championship caliber game."

It was with high spirits, however, that the team left for Huntsville, Texas to take on their first round match-up, the Northern Colorado Bears. The Bears brought a big, physical team to the match, and the game quickly turned into a bitter struggle. Northern Colorado scored quickly, breaking in with a try only three minutes into the game. The Panthers responded with one of their own five minutes later, and the battle was on. "We were a better team," said Herter. "They were just lucky to have had a full spring season and be at peak performance." Middlebury, though rusty, was not about to back down. The team faced with intense offen-

(see Ruggers, page 28)